Just CrossStitch SPECIAL CHRISTMAS ISSUE

Christmas Ornaments

50+ Fabulous Cross-Stitch Designers

Including
- Tald in a Garden
- Designs by Gloria & Pat
- Shepherd's Delight
- The Lilac Thistle
- Twisted Threads
- Cross 'N Patch
- Heart in Hand
- Fancy That
- Nosey 'N Me
- Just Nan

And *More*

Christmas Ornaments 1997

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Editors' Note

Phyllis Hoffman
Editor-in-Chief

Lorna Reeves
Editor

One of the most celebrated events of this glorious season is decorating the Christmas tree. With the lights on the branches and spaced so perfectly, anticipation grows as the ornaments are unveiled. Tissue paper is removed to reveal wonderful family treasures. Each ornament becomes more precious each year, serving as a reminder of a special person or event.

This 1997 Christmas ornament collection is very special for it not only features outstanding designs in cross stitch but it also represents many outstanding designers. Each person has shared a wonderful holiday memory or favorite recipes, giving you a glimpse into their personal lives.

These designers are more than just names to us at *Just CrossStitch* magazine; they are friends. The pleasure of knowing them and watching their businesses grow has brought great joy to us. Many of them were around before we were and encouraged us in establishing this magazine. Others have come into the market and are new friends. We appreciate these talented people for sharing of themselves and making our lives richer by the great cross-stitch designs they publish.

Merry Christmas!

NIGHT OF MIRACLES
Designed by Phyllis Hoffman of *Just CrossStitch*®

Kreinik Soie d'Alger	DMC	
X 945	498	red, dk.
• 2136	936	avocado, dk.
○ 2234	729	old gold, med.

Kreinik Japan Thread #5	
002J	gold

Fabric: 28-count China white Royal Crown linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 41H X 41W
Design size: 3" x 3"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch lettering, using one strand 2136/936. Work diamond-eyelet stitch for star, using one strand 2234/729. Work long stitch for center of small hearts, using one strand 2136/936. Work four-sided stitch for center of

NIGHT OF MIRACLES

lower-right heart, using one strand 2234/729. Couch Japan thread for center of upper-left heart, using one strand 945/498 at intersections. **NOTE:** Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to fringed pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 95. Work chain stitch, using one strand 2136/936. Braided hanger was made using 945/498 and 2136/936.

JOY WREATH

Designed by Lorna Reeves
of *Just CrossStitch*®

Weeks Dye Works

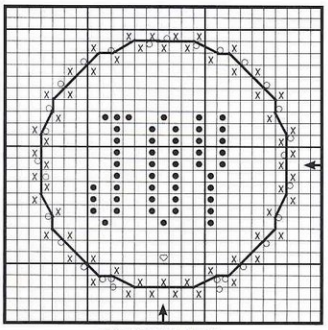
X 1276	Blue Spruce
• 2264	Garnet

Creative Beginnings Charms

♡ F992824	brass bow

Fabric: 28-count antique white Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 23H x 23W
Design size: 1⅔" x 1⅔"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.



JOY WREATH

Work French knot where ○ appears, using two strands 2264 Garnet and wrapping floss around needle once. Attach charm where ♡ appears, using two strands of matching floss.

Finishing instructions:
Mount stitched piece on 2¼" round Stik n' Puff, following manufacturer's instructions. Cover back of ornament with felt in a complementary color. Twisted-cording trim was made using white floss and ecru floss. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

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1997
JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
TO THEE AND ME.
CHERISHED FRIENDS
FOREVER BE. 1997
WRKD BY MC FOR SM
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3

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

When stitchers dream of the perfect Christmas, they envision entire trees laden with intricately stitched ornaments. A new addition to a prized ornament collection is an annual tradition. As you browse through the following pages, selecting a favorite design will be difficult. Traditional, romantic, whimsical, primitive—this collection offers something for every taste. Following the gallery of photos, design companies are featured in alphabetical order for easy locating of charts and color codes.

1. Christmas Memory Ornament
   The Needle's Work
2. Joyous Christmas
   "From Merry's Heart"
3. A-maze-ing Holiday Heart
   The Sweetheart Tree™
4. Holly & Hearts
   Pat Rogers' Counted Collection
5. Eight-Pointed Star
   Cross 'N Patch

1
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4

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

Blue and white is a favorite color scheme for decorating, even at Christmas. These ornaments are rich in color and dramatic in style with lovely cobalt-blue touches. A small chest with tiny knobs can be a great place to showcase ornaments that deserve special attention—be creative in displaying your holiday handwork for all to enjoy.

1. 1994 Christmas Madonna
   Told in a Garden
2. 1997 Honeysuckle Ornament
   Theron Traditions
3. Peace on Earth
   Sheepish Designs
4. The Darling of the World Is Come
   Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches
5. Nativity Stocking
   Serendipity Designs

JOY
LITTLE MINISTER
ILLUSTRATED
MERRY
1
2
3
4
5

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

Stitching ornaments is a way of documenting special moments in our lives. Not every decoration has to be elaborate to evoke fond memories. Simple images of animals and toys, lovingly created in stitches, become nostalgic tokens of time. Create an ornament for someone you love and enclose a note mentioning the significance of the ornament and why you thought of the recipient while stitching the keepsake.

1. Holiday Robin
   Crossed Wing Collection
2. Merry!
   Heart in Hand Needleart
3. Teddy Bear
   Graphworks International, Inc.
4. Berry
   Just Nan, Inc.
5. Train
   The Prairie Schooler

Hark
rose
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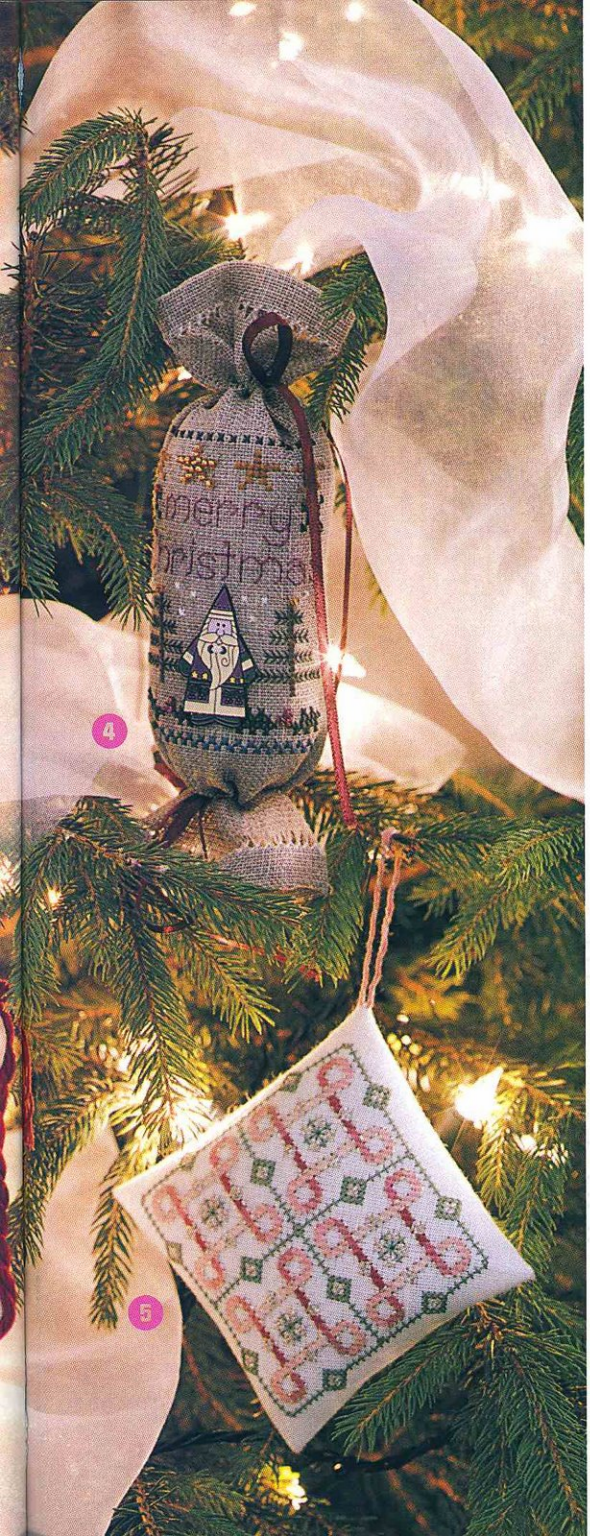

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

The soft glow of the tree lights and delicately colored ornaments create an image that is different than the traditional bright colors of Christmas. Softer pastels are being used to customize decorations that complement household furnishings. Nestled in the tree branches, these ornaments will command attention by their intricate stitches and delicate finishing.

1. Hark
   The Heart's Content, Inc.
2. Rosa
   The Lilac Studio, Inc.
3. Floral Christmas Ornament
   Graphs by Barbara & Cheryl, Inc.
4. Merry Christmas Roll
   Shepherd's Bush Printworks
5. Ribbons of Hope
   The Needle's Prayse

1
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1937

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

Welcome family and friends with a wreath full of Santas. Most guests prefer to congregate in the kitchen, and this interior door decoration will evoke a smile as your company arrives. Children especially love these designs and will want to take one home with them! Stitch one for each little one on your list and enjoy their delight when they receive your handmade ornament for their tree!

1. Old Saint Nick
   Needle Maid® Designs, Inc.
2. Santa Bellpull
   Carol Emmer Designs
3. Nutmeg Santa
   Schoolroom Samplings
4. Santa
   Hollie Designs
5. Fishing Santa
   Country Cross-Stitch, Inc.

...Oh the weather
outside is
1
2
4
5

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

Whimsical ornaments are fun to make, especially with the wonderful beads, embellishments, and trims available today. These items add great textures to needlework but should be kept safely out of the reach of little hands. Finish your ornament in an unsual fashion for stunning results. There are many simple ideas for finishing that look complicated—only you will know the truth, but keep that Christmas secret to yourself. Instructions for ornament finishing begin on page 94.

1. . . .The Weather Outside . . .
   Sue Hillis Designs
2. Ready for Christmas
   Douglas Designs
3. Elfie
   Twisted Threads
4. Home for Christmas
   Mosey 'N Me
5. Erwin the Elf
   Fanci That Patterns, Inc.

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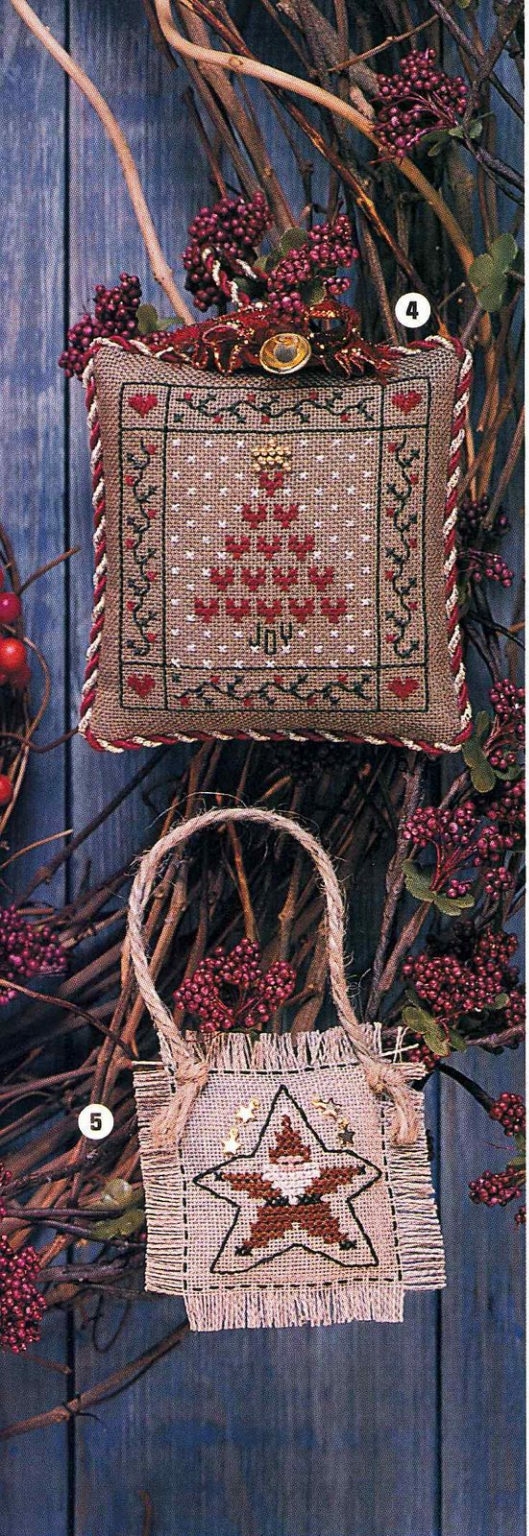
O TANNENBAUM

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

There have been many songs and stories devoted to the Christmas tree that have been passed down through generations. The yuletide evergreen holds a special place in many homes, and its illumination serves to announce the advent of the season. Traditional red and green ornaments, stitched with various fibers, pay tribute to this grand tree and will make lovely additions to your collection.

1. Nantucket Christmas Basket
   Ginger & Spice
2. Stitcher's Tree
   The Scarlet Thread
3. O Tannenbaum
   The Sampler House
4. Stitching Memories
   June Grigg Designs, Inc.
5. A Christmas Tree
   Needlecrafts Unlimited Co.

1
Christmas
1992
2
NOEL
3



1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

Folk art designs are a popular trend in cross stitch. The simple lines and darker colors make these decorations fun to stitch and finish. Add a warm touch to your home by displaying these ornaments indoors on a grapevine wreath that is hung in a prominent spot for continued enjoyment by family and friends.

1. Snowman's Christmas
   Hillside Samplings
2. Snowman Stocking
   Sigrid Designs/Thimb-Elena™
3. Reindeer on the Roof
   Mary Garry's Sewing Cabin
4. Hearts of Joy
   JBW Designs
5. Starry Santa
   Homespun Elegance Ltd.

1997 Christmas Ornaments COLLECTION

Angels and stars are reminders of the joy of Christmas and have recently become stitchers' favorites. The mantel is an ideal place to display your intriguing collections. After the garland has been hung, carefully attach the ornaments with fine wire to secure their position. Decorations such as these make lovely additions to greenery along banisters as well.

1. Florentine Christmas Angel
   Jemini Designs
2. Good Tidings
   Little By Little Design Co.
3. Silent Night
   Threads Through Time
4. Homespun Holidays
   Bent Creek, Inc.
5. A Christmas Angel
   "Vera K" Designs

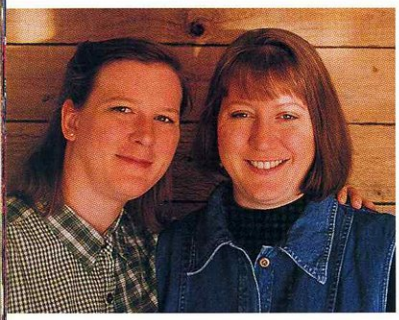
Large ornaments can be used in a variety of ways to lend added cheer to the holiday season. Gift baskets are perfectly complete when handmade ornaments are included. Use oversized hanging ornaments as doorknob embellishments, and pillow-style decorations can add yuletide cheer to sofas, armchairs, or beds.

While you enjoy stitching ornaments from this collection, count your blessing as you count your stitches. Put your special touch on the season by creating special memories for the special people in your life.

1. Merry Christmas, Deer
   Designs by Gloria & Pat, Inc.
2. Do You See What I See?
   DKT Originals
3. Christmas Helper
   Pegasus Originals, Inc.
4. Tinsel Faerie Mouse
   de la Tour Designs

Bent Creek, Inc.

Elizabeth Newlin and Marsha Worley



As sisters, Elizabeth and I have many memories of Christmas spent with our family—caroling, trimming the tree, eating coffee cake, and drinking hot chocolate. However, one tradition that is fondly remembered is a tradition the two of us shared alone.

Being sent to bed is never pleasant when you are young; but on Christmas Eve, bedtime is especially difficult. Elizabeth and I had an agreement that whoever woke up first would wake the other on Christmas morning. Of course, the excitement always woke us up in the middle of the night. We would sneak into the living room and wait on the couch squirming around while the excitement continued to build. After what seemed to be hours of torture on the couch, we would finally rush to the fireplace to check our stockings.

Any other day of the year, Elizabeth and I would fight, make up, and share our toys like all other sisters. On Christmas, we became comrades. I will always cherish those times.

HOMESPUN HOLIDAYS

Designed by Elizabeth Newlin and Marsha Worley of Bent Creek, Inc.

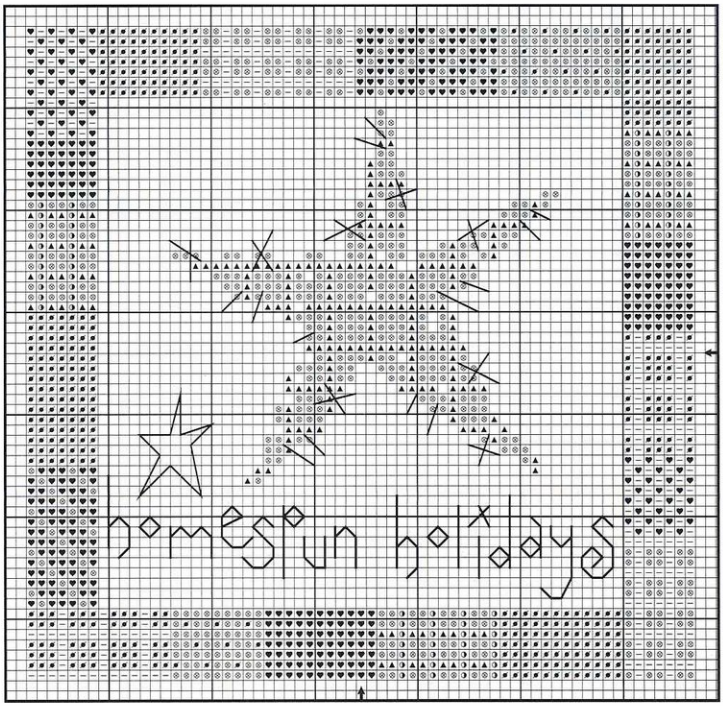
	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
◑	3371	5478	382	black-brown
⊗	680	2876	907	old gold, dk.
๑	221	3242	897	pink, vy. dk.
♥	935	6270	861	avocado, vy. dk.
–	644	5831	831	beige-gray, med.
▲	801	5475	353	coffee, dk.

Fabric: 30-count Creek Bed Brown linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 64H x 65W
Design size: 4¼" x 4⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch lettering, using two strands 3371/5478/382. Work long stitch for small star, primitive stitches around the large star, and X over the "i," using two strands 3371/5478/382.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Jute twine was used for trim.

Finished by Suzanne Tomasko



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HOMESPUN HOLIDAYS

(Photo is on page 28.)

Carol Emmer Designs

Carol Emmer

A Season of Grace

Christmas for the Emmer family includes a Christmas letter. I would like to share our Christmas 1995 letter with you. It is a true history (in story form) of our wildflower meadow's first season. May you all experience your own "Season of Grace."

He slouched into the faded denim that passed for his jacket, his mood matching that of the raw November wind. Thoughts skittered through his mind like the brittle leaves of a lackluster fall. Rousing himself he muttered, "I better get a move on and just do it."

A practical man, his decision carried with it a niggling sense of frivolous waste and doubt. You simply did not take good land out of production without just cause. The land was intended to provide for one's cattle or it put cash in your pocket. Any fool knew that! "So why am I getting ready to seed this acre down in wildflowers?" he wondered. He could say it was for his wife. But he was too honest for that convenient lie. It was no secret that she had been asking him to do something "lovely" with that field for years, and he hadn't budged. "Most pie in the sky woman I know! A roof over your head, food on the table, clothes on your back . . . these are the realities of life," he snorted. "But darned if I know anything anymore!"

In spite of the dubious crop he was sowing, the love of the land was evident in his every gesture. Not a movement was wasted. Each was measured, methodical, reverent. With every sweep of his arm the expensive seed left callused fingertips with the admonition to "Grow! Darn it!"

Winter quietly passed into the damp grey that was spring and gave birth to equally grey thoughts of whether or not the wildflowers would be more than a scraggly mess begging to be plowed under.

Inevitably the damp gave way to warmth and sun exposing several small, red blooms . . . and a promise is fulfilled. The farmer's wife whispered, "Food for the soul."

"Just a couple of fool, red poppies," he groused.

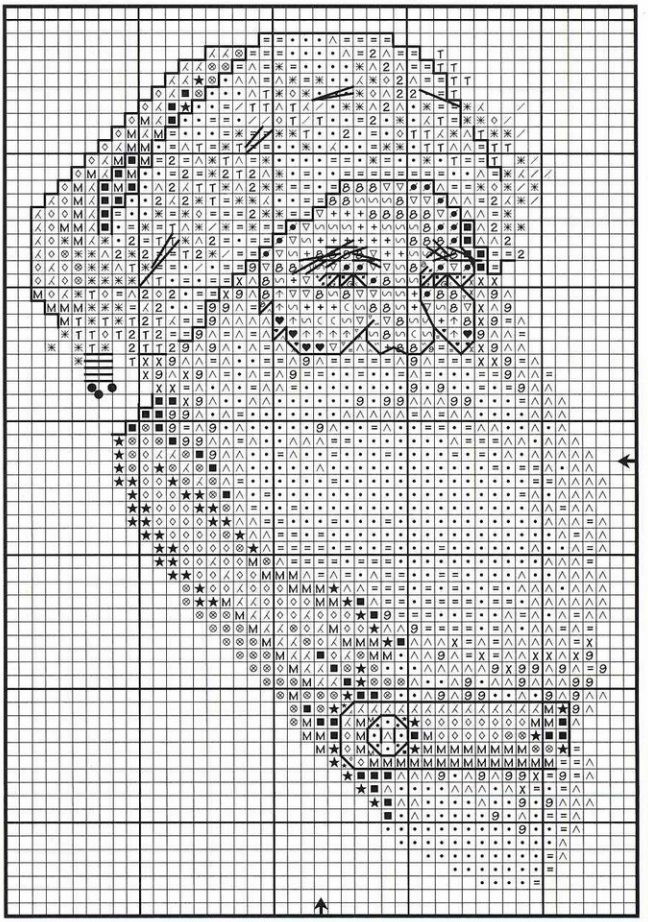
By late June that parcel of land and those fool red poppies were a carpet of red that could be seen a half mile away. Trucks stopped. Cars stopped. People came. They came with questions, cameras, words of thanks. And some came just to stand in the midst of the splendor that was the meadow. "Food for the soul," sighed the farmer's wife. "Maybe," he mumbled.

All that summer neighbors and strangers alike dropped by. Some told of the joy the meadow gave as they passed. Others took the farmer aside hoping to coax the meadow's real purpose from him. Then . . . they came. The aunt and the uncle. They had a request they said. It was for the boy . . . his funeral . . . his mother . . . her vision, they said. A nod, a single movement of the head and a vision is given substance. A child has [flowers from] a meadow to help him complete his journey. "Food for the soul," wept the farmer. "Yes," breathed his wife.

SANTA BELLPULL
Designed by Carol Emmer
of Carol Emmer Designs

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
■	3031	5472	381	mocha, vy. dk.
◪	3772	5579	379	flesh, dk.
▽	3064	3883	379	flesh, med.
♥	352	3008	9	coral, lt.
8	758	3868	868	terra-cotta, lt.
∩	353	3006	8	peach flesh
↑	3708	3127	31	melon, lt.
+	948	2331	778	peach flesh, vy. lt.
☾	3770	3334	1011	flesh, vy. lt.
G	931	7051	921	antique blue, med.
★	814	3044	44	garnet, dk.
⊗	498	3410	43	red, dk.
M	321	3500	47	red
◊	666	3046	46	red, bt.
⩘	3801	3012	35	Christmas red, lt.
•	white	1001	01	white
X	640	5393	393	beige-gray, vy. dk.
9	642	5832	832	beige-gray, dk.
∧	644	5831	831	beige-gray, med.
=	822	5830	830	beige-gray, lt.
T	934	6270	862	avocado black
✳	3011	6845	845	khaki, dk.
2	3012	6843	844	khakik, med.
⁄	3013	6842	842	khaki, lt.
bs	356	2975	9575	terra-cotta, med.
ss	5282	–	–	gold metallic

Fabric: 32-count tumbleweed Homespun Linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 64H x 43W
Design size: 4" x 2¾"

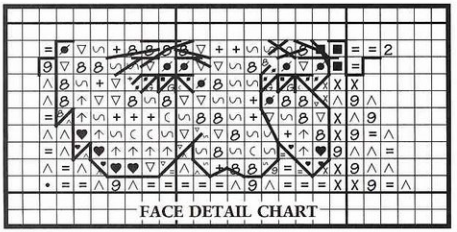


SANTA BELLPULL
(Photo is on page 20.)

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. Work long stitch for eyebrows, using one strand white/1001/01. Work satin stitch (ss) for end of hat, using two strands 5282. For hat tassel, use two strands 666/3046/46 (six-inch length). Bring ends together to form a loop and thread needle. Insert needle in fabric where • appears and bring to front of fabric just above •. Insert needle through loop and gently pull to form fringed tassel. Repeat for remaining •. Trim hat tassel to desired length.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

356	2975	9575	nose, cheeks, sides of face
3031	5472	381	remainder of backstitching



Finishing instructions: On tracing paper, draw a rectangle 4½" wide x 6½" long. From the top, draw a 7¼" line lengthwise down the middle. Bring each 6½" line over to the center to form a point. This is your pattern. It includes ¼" seam allowances for the sides and pointed bottom and ¾" allowance on the top for a casing. Center stitching under pattern. Pin and cut out. Repeat with backing fabric. With right sides together and leaving top open for turning, sew backing to stitched design. Trim corners, turn right-side out, and press. Using a zigzag stitch, sew raw edges of top together. Press ¼" of top to back. Fold again, approximately ½", and press to form a casing. Insert bellpull hardware and slipstitch casing on bottom fold line. Tassel was made using 666/3046/46. Tassel-making how-tos appear on page 95.

Country Cross-Stitch, Inc.

Joyce C. Bailey

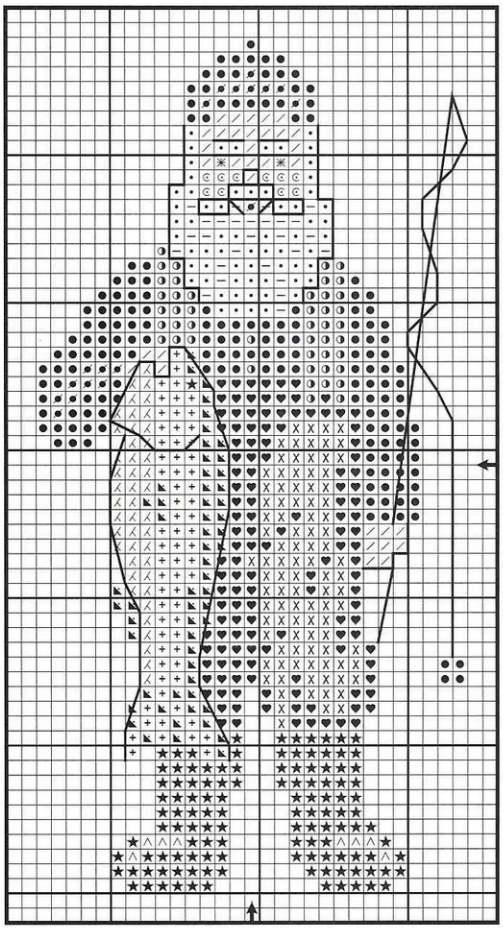
My husband and I love the beach, and we have a place at the coast about an hour from Tallahassee where we live. Most weekends that we don't have other commitments that's where we are, all year. Jerry is an avid fisherman, and there's something very relaxing and peaceful there. It's very laid back and unpretentious, and we enjoy it. Our two sons, Jon and Chris, 23 and 20, fish, scuba dive, and waterski; and we look forward to meeting them there, too.

I also love Christmas, and our house is full of Santas for two months, even our beach house. They're all "Fishing Santas" there. I also put up a Christmas tree at the coast, full of ornaments that have to do with the beach and the sea. I get excited every year when I pull them out and start decorating. So, I thought it was appropriate that I design a "Fishing Santa" for this issue. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and you know where it will be hanging this Christmas!

FISHING SANTA

Designed by Joyce C. Bailey
of Country Cross-Stitch, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	white	1001	01	white
★	310	8403	403	black



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FISHING SANTA

(Photo is on page 20.)

•	347	3013	13	salmon, dk.
∧	414	8513	235	steel gray, dk.
+	503	6879	876	blue-green, med.
♥	561	6211	212	jade, vy. dk.
X	562	6213	210	jade, med.
◑	725	2298	305	topaz
◖	758	3868	868	terra-cotta, lt.
–	762	8510	397	pearl gray, vy. lt.
/	950	2336	376	flesh, lt.
◪	3328	3071	10	salmon, med.
✓	3753	7976	128	antique blue, ul. vy. lt.
◟	3755	7021	145	baby blue
✳	3760	7162	169	Wedgwood
bs	415	8398	398	pearl gray

Fabric: 14-count cream perforated paper from Yarn Tree Designs
Stitch count: 58H x 30W
Design size: 4¼" x 2¼"

Instructions: Cross stitch using three strands of floss. Backstitch using two strands of floss unless otherwise indicated.

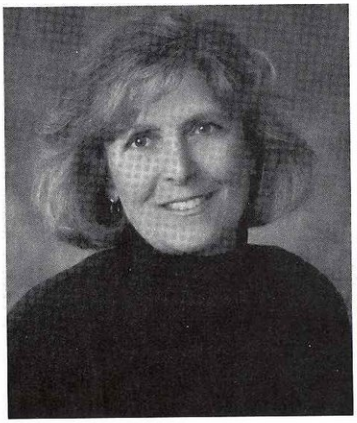
Backstitch (bs) instructions:

310	8403	403	fishing pole (three strands), area above eyes
414	8513	235	fishing line
3760	7162	169	fish
415	8398	398	beard, eyebrows, mustache, hand
3328	3071	10	corners of mouth
758	3868	868	nose

Finishing instructions:
Clip loose threads. Apply adhesive felt to back. Trim within a row or two of stitching. Attach gold metallic thread (4"–6" long) at top for a hanger.

Cross 'N Patch

Emie Bishop



Christmas would not be right without our "Apple Cider Wassail." Each fall, we harvest the apples grown in our orchard and then take them to a mill to be pressed. We share the cider with neighbors, family, and friends and freeze enough for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Apple Cider Wassail

1 quart apple cider or juice
½ cup sugar
2 cups water
5 whole cloves
4 allspice berries
1 cinnamon stick
½ piece ginger root
2 cups orange juice
1 cup lemon juice

Combine sugar and water; boil 2 minutes. Remove from heat and add spices. Cover and allow to cool. Strain. Add juices and cider. Bring to serving temperature.
Yield: eight servings

EIGHT-POINTED STAR
Designed by Emie Bishop
of Cross 'N Patch

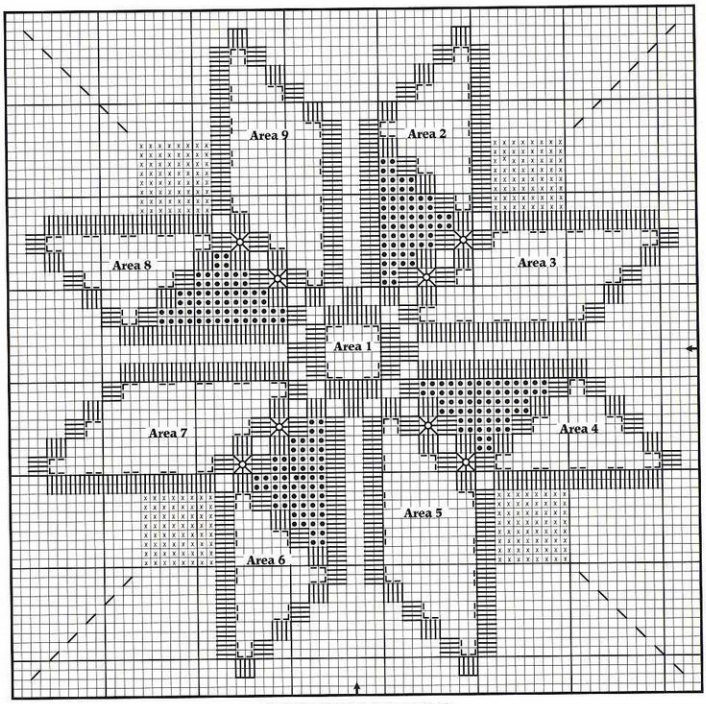
	DMC	Coats Anchor®		
X	498	3410	43	red, dk.
•	895	6021	246	green, dk.

DMC Coton Perlé #8 and #12	
ecru	ecru

Fabric: 32-count cream Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 70H x70W
Design size: 4⅜" x 4⅜"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work klosters, using one strand #8 coton perlé. Work running stitch, using two strands 498/3410/43. Work Algerian-eye stitch, using #12 coton perlé.

Special instructions:
NOTE: Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.



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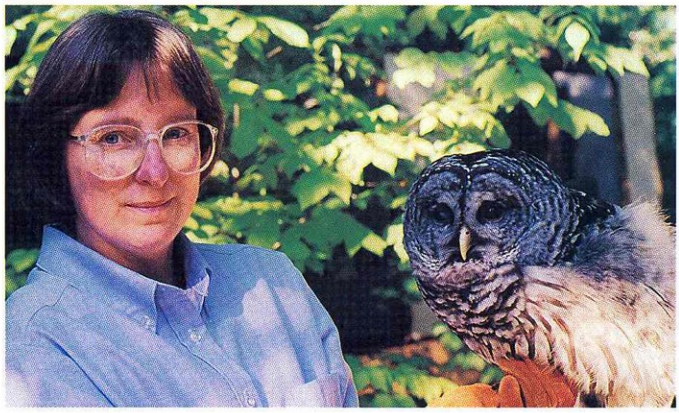
EIGHT-POINTED STAR
(Photo is on page 12.)

Area 1–Cut and remove marked fabric threads. Using #12 coton perlé, work connected wrapped bars.
Areas 2, 4, 6, and 8–Cut and remove marked fabric threads. Using #12 coton perlé, work woven bars.
Areas 3, 5, 7, and 9–Cut and remove marked fabric threads. Using #12 coton perlé, work woven bars with corner dove's eye.

Finishing instructions:
Place stitched piece between two pieces of red fabric. Stitch around three of the four sides of the square, leaving the fourth side open for turning. Turn fabric to right side. Slip stitch closed. Press. Hanger was made using two strands 498/3410/43.

Crossed Wing Collection

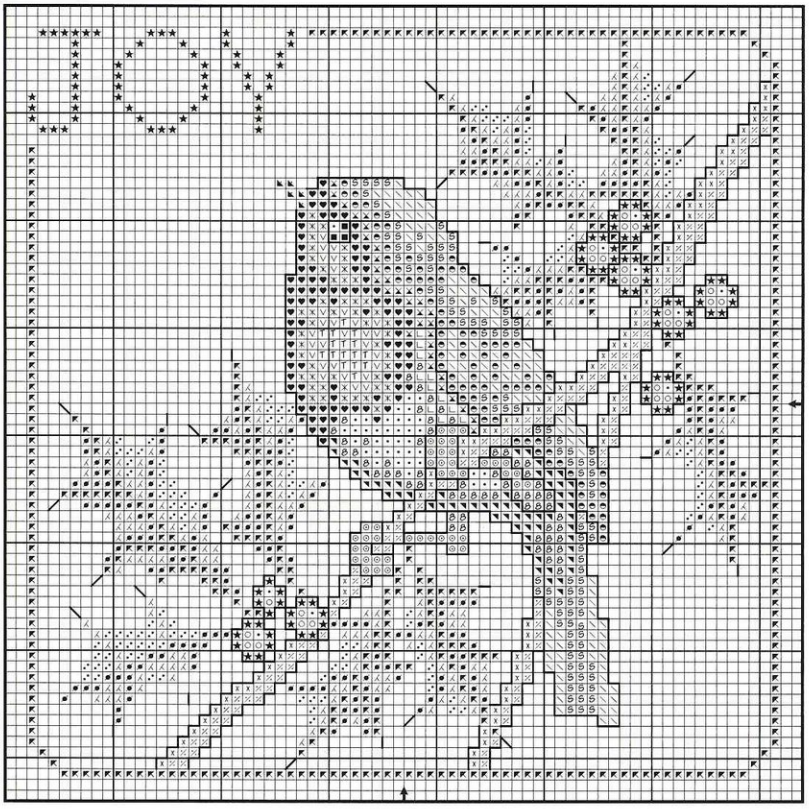
Paula Minkebige



We lived at a Montana ski resort some years ago. Our last winter there it seemed to snow every day, yet that Christmas Eve the skies were clear, the moon near full, the moonshadows incredible. If you've ever been out on a moonlit winter night when snow blankets the ground and clings to the limbs of trees, you know the feeling. Just turn up the emotional intensity a few notches to account for the mountains and the rarified air, and you get a sense of what it was like that evening.

After work, we cross-country skied down the mountain, along with about a dozen other people, and their dogs–it seemed everyone had a dog–to the home of friends who drove down, bringing with them everyone's contribution to a potluck supper.

Simple idea–no gift buying dilemmas, just great skiing, good food, and good friends, making for a most remarkable Christmas.



©1997 Crossed Wing Collection

HOLIDAY ROBIN

(Photo is on page 16. Color code is on page 36.)

HOLIDAY ROBIN

Designed by Paula Minkebige
of Crossed Wing Collection

	DMC	Coats Anchor®		
•	white	1001	01	white
■	310	8403	403	black
◤	844	8501	382	beaver gray, ul. dk.
⧗	414	8513	235	steel gray, dk.
L	318	8511	399	steel gray, lt.
⊙	645	8500	273	beaver gray, vy. dk.
◓	3781	5475	1050	mocha brown, dk.
S	611	5898	898	drab brown, dk.
\	612	5898	832	drab brown, med.
◥	3023	–	8581	brown-gray, lt.
8	3024	8390	900	brown-gray, vy. lt.
♥	3826	5356	1049	golden brown
x	301	3337	349	mahogany, med.
v	976	2308	309	gold-brown, med.
T	977	2306	313	gold-brown, lt.
⁂	3011	6845	845	khaki, dk.
X	3013	6842	842	khaki, lt.
◤	500	6880	879	blue-green, vy. dk.
◉	501	6878	878	blue-green, dk.
◿	502	6876	877	blue-green
◔	503	6879	876	blue-green, med.
★	221	3242	897	pink, vy. dk.
○	3722	3242	896	pink, med. dk.
bs	3031	5472	381	mocha, vy. dk.
bs	3787	5395	393	brown-gray, dk.
bs	935	6270	861	avocado, vy. dk.

Fabric: 28-count Lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 70H x 70W
Design size: 2½" x 2½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. **NOTE:** Points at tips of leaves should be backstitched in same color as that directly below the tip.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

3031	5472	381	orange breast and throat, head, back, wing
3781	5475	1050	tail
3787	5395	393	belly, undertail, legs
977	2306	313	eye
3011	6845	845	topside of branch
935	6270	861	underside of branch
221	3242	897	berries

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim and tassel were made using 500/6880/879 and gold metallic floss. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions. Tassel-making how-tos appear on page 95.

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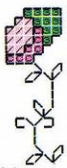

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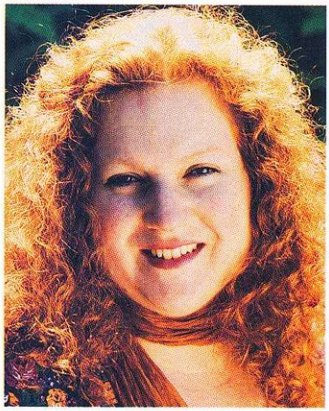
Rebecca de la Tour



For those of you unfamiliar with a California Christmas, let me just say that it quite often can involve sunscreen and sleeping with the windows open. Even at its coldest, here by the San Francisco Bay, it only snows about once every 25 years or so.

When I was eight, my sister Adriana had just married a man raised in the mountains of Arizona. Her new husband David invited us to come up to Crown King, Arizona, to see a real white Christmas. My youth made me blissfully ignorant of the treacherous narrow mountain roads we ascended, and when we got there we stayed in a beautiful rustic building known as "The Bunkhouse." While there was much to enjoy in the lovely forests, alas, there was no snow.

We were just about to bed down for the night, when David's mother Loraine called out to me: falling from the night sky were big, beautiful, feathery snowflakes! As I think of it now, I can still feel their first touch on my face, an instant of tickling, and then their evaporation in the dry mountain air. Loraine and David showed me wonderful things to do with the snow, like making a snowman (I think we did it that very night!), throwing snowballs, and even making ice cream with snow, sugar, cream, and vanilla–yum! (As you can see by my photo, I'm still trying to work off those ice cream calories. . . .)

The real gifts that Christmas were the pure pleasures and discoveries that became a part of me at that moment. Now, at age 40, when I see a landscape, hear a bird, smell a flower, I am once again an eight-year-old experiencing the magic of nature for the very first time.

TINSEL FAERIE MOUSE
Designed by Rebecca de la Tour of de la Tour Designs

Anchor®	DMC	
○ 332	3705	melon, dk.
◞ 335	666	red, bt.
◑ 9046	321	red
♥ 1005	816	garnet
• 01	white	white
Ⓢ 234	762	pearl gray, vy. lt.
v 235	317	pewter gray
★ 236	3799	pewter gray, dk.
■ 403	310	black

Kreinik Blending Filament

=001	silver (two strands, half stitch)
⧗ 001	silver (one strand,half stitch)
ᔕ 001	silver (four strands)
Z 001	silver (two strands)

Fabric: 14-count indigo Aida from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 70H x 69W
Design size: 5" x 5"

Instructions: Cross stitch using two strands of floss. Backstitch using two strands of blending filament.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Hanger was made using a 12" four-strand length of 1005/816, a 12" four-strand length of 335/666, and four strands of blending filament.

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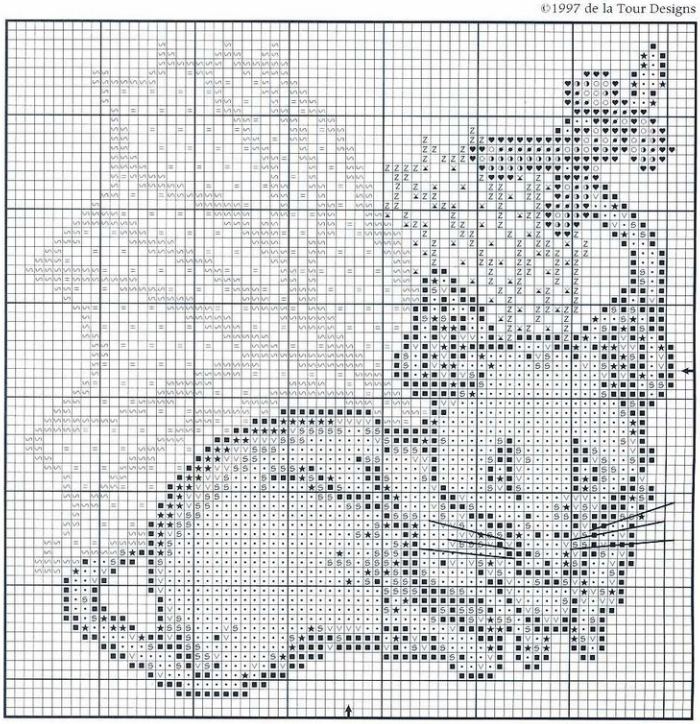

TINSEL FAERIE MOUSE
(Photo is on page 29.)

Designs by Gloria & Pat, Inc.

Pat Carson

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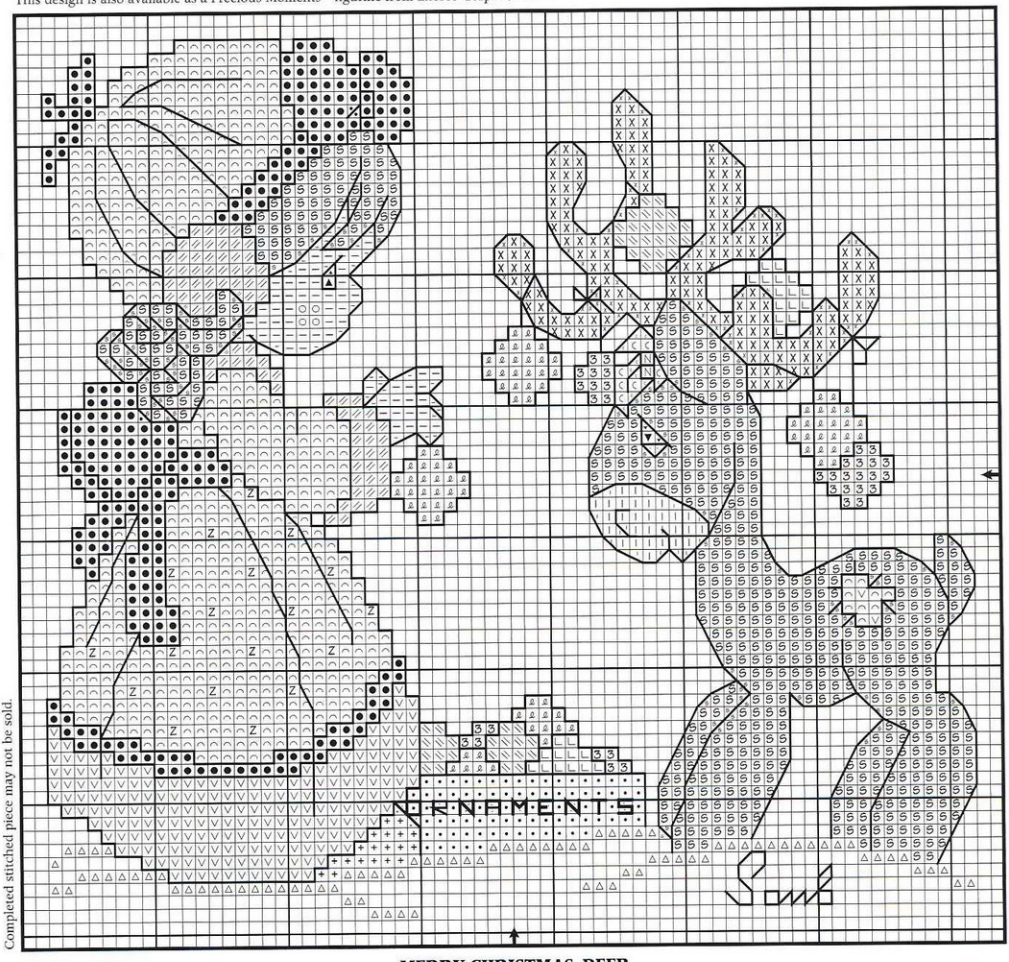


Completed stitched piece may not be sold.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, DEER

(Photo is on page 29.)

Franklin Nut Cake

1 pound butter
2 cups sugar
6 eggs
4 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
1 pound candied cherries (cut in small pieces)
1 pound pecans (cut in small pieces)
2 teaspoons vanilla

Cream butter and sugar. Add beaten eggs. Add 3 cups flour sifted with baking powder and salt. Mix remaining flour with cherries and pecans. Stir into batter (do not beat) and add vanilla. Pour into greased and floured tube pan. Bake at 250° for 3 hours. Let cool in pan. Store in tightly covered container or aluminum foil.

Chocolate-Covered Cherry Cookies

1½ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon baking soda
½ cup butter or margarine, softened
1 cup sugar
1 egg
1½ teaspoons vanilla
10-ounce jar maraschino cherries (about 48)
6-ounce package semi-sweet chocolate pieces
½ cup sweetened condensed milk

In large bowl, stir together flour, cocoa powder, salt, baking powder, and soda. In mixer bowl, beat together butter or margarine and sugar at low speed of electric mixer until fluffy. Add egg and vanilla; beat well. Gradually add dry ingredients to creamed mixture; beat until well blended. Shape dough into one-inch balls; place on ungreased cookie sheet. press down center of dough with thumb. Drain maraschino cherries, reserving juice. Place a cherry in the center of each cookie. In small saucepan, combine chocolate pieces and sweetened condensed milk; heat until chocolate is melted. Stir in 4 teaspoons of reserved cherry juice. Spoon about 1 teaspoon frosting over each cherry, spreading to cover cherry. (Frosting may be thinned with additional cherry juice, if necessary.) Bake in 350° oven about 10 minutes or until done. Remove to wire rack; cool.
Yield: 48 cookies

MERRY CHRISTMAS, DEER

Designed by Pat Carson
of Designs by Gloria and Pat, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	B5200	—	2	snow white
–	754	3146	6	peach, lt.
○	353	3006	8	peach
v	3713	3281	968	salmon, vy. lt.
N	3328	3071	10	salmon, dk.
I	739	5369	942	tan, ul. lt.
S	738	5375	372	tan, vy. lt.
X	437	5942	361	tan, lt.
▼	433	5471	944	brown, med.
+	3782	5388	831	mocha brown, lt.
(	320	6017	215	pistachio, med.
⌒	564	6209	206	jade, vy. lt.
●	563	6210	209	jade, lt.
Z	562	6213	210	jade, med.
△	3756	7975	274	baby blue, ul. vy. lt.
▲	930	7052	922	antique blue, dk.
bs	632	5936	936	desert sand, ul. vy. dk.

	DMC Rayon Floss	Marlitt	
ℓ	33689	1019	mauve, lt.
\	30745	1013	yellow, lt. pl.
L	30955	832	Nile green, lt.
3	30800	1059	delft, pl.

	Rainbow Gallery Wisper	
/	W88	white

Fabric: 28-count ivory linen from Charles Craft, Inc.
Stitch count: 67H x 70W
Design size: 4⅞" x 5"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss, one strand of rayon floss, or one strand of Wisper. Backstitch using one strand of floss.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

3328	3071	10	word "ornaments"
738	5375	372	"SamB"
632	5936	936	remainder of backstitching

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Piping and 3"-wide ruffle were made using backing fabric. Gathered 2"-wide eyelet was purchased.

DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

Designed by Diane K. Tolle
of DKT Originals

	The Gentle Art Sampler Threads	
◆	0540	Brandy
♥	0330	Cherry Wine
✐	0240	Midnight

	Kreinik Blending Filament	
bs	032	pearl

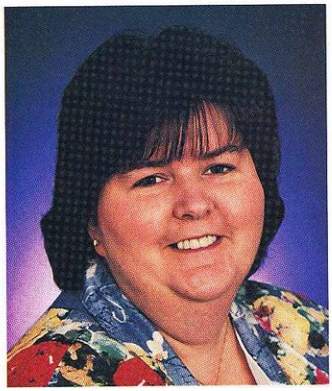
Fabric: 30-count Wee Freedom Blue from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 70 x 70
Design size: 4⅔" x 4⅔"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch (bs) using two strands blending filament. Where + appears, cross stitch using two strands 0540 Brandy and then work half cross stitch, using two strands blending filament. Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads for border, using two strands of floss. **NOTE:** Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Twisted-cording trim and tassel were made using 072 Midnight Watercolours by The Caron Collection. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions. Tassel-making how-tos appear on page 95.
(Chart is on page 40.)

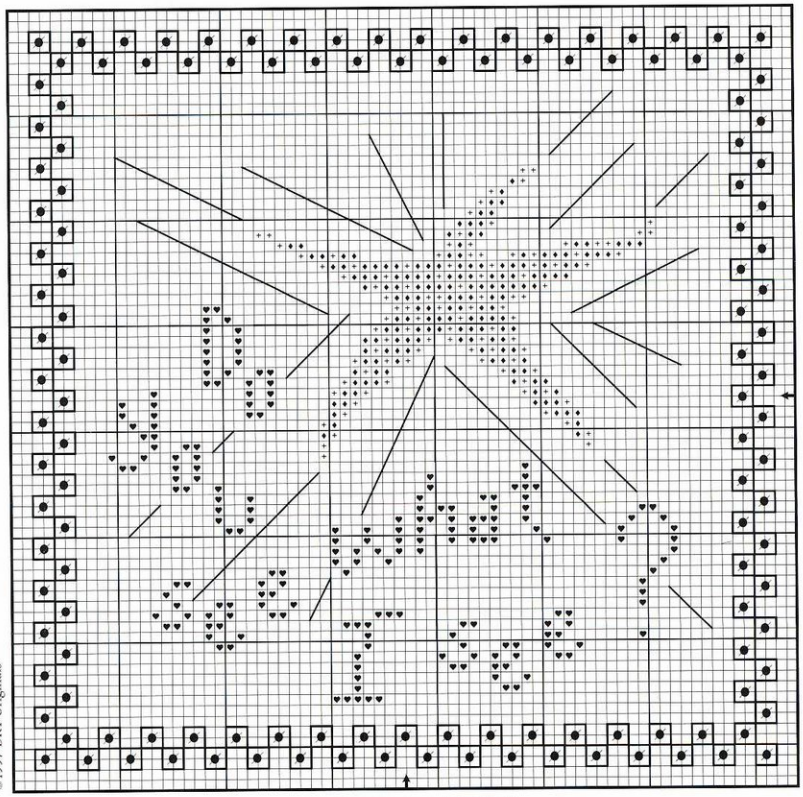
DKT Originals

Diane K. Tolle



Many of most special Christmas memories as a child center around our family gatherings at Grandma and Grandpa's house. Schedules didn't seem to be quite so hectic for everyone when we were younger, and we always managed to gather together with all of the aunts, uncles, and cousins for a wonderful weekend during the holiday season. It was always special when we could get together to visit, catch up with each other's lives, and share memories. We would all go to church together on Christmas Eve, then return to Grandma's to sing carols and have our own celebration. At some point, all of the uncles would sit down with us to play games, but the main objective, instead of winning the game, would end up with us trying to catch them cheating. No matter what we spent our time doing, it was always a wonderful time spent together in laughter, creating special memories.

I am quite excited about a new tradition that will be started this Christmas. There is a group of special friends (and all are stitchers!) that gets together every year for a quiet Christmas party. In the past we've always exchanged gifts with each other and spent the night talking and having fun. This year we have decided to start a new tradition. Instead of exchanging gifts with each other, we are going to draw names from the "Angel Tree," go out together and buy gifts and goodies for some very deserving children. Then the party will continue with us wrapping the gifts and boxing up whatever foodstuffs we have gotten for the child's parents to help with their Christmas dinner. We will all share a special evening together, enjoying wonderful friendships, holiday treats, while helping others have a happy holiday season at the same time. It sounds like a fantastic new tradition to me.



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DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

(Photo is on page 29. Color code is on page 39.)

Douglas Designs

Virginia Douglas

Most of us are familiar with the line, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." While to many Santa is just a myth, this Virginia really does believe there is a Santa Claus!

Ever since I was a very young girl, Christmas has held a special place in my heart. The church that I attended as a child had the most beautiful, almost life-like Nativity scene; and it was such a joy to view the scene close-up and to think about the very real event the scene portrayed.

My mom has always been a terrific baker; and as Christmas neared, the house was always filled with the aroma of cinnamon and chocolate and all the other wonderful scents of holiday cooking and baking. While Christmas was in the air, it was also a time for making and displaying crafty holiday decorations–it was Christmastime indeed!

And then there was Santa. Who could forget about Santa? The anticipation grew as the days passed. Finally, Christmas morning arrived; and my brother and I would be up at the crack of dawn to see what goodies awaited us. We were never let down because Santa never forgot.

There really was a Virginia who wrote her now-famous letter to the editor of the *New York Sun* in 1897. When she grew up, she married and became Dr. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas, a principal in the New York City public schools.

Virginia and I share the same married name. I am sure that it is more than a coincidence that we also share the same belief.... Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

(Continued on page 42)

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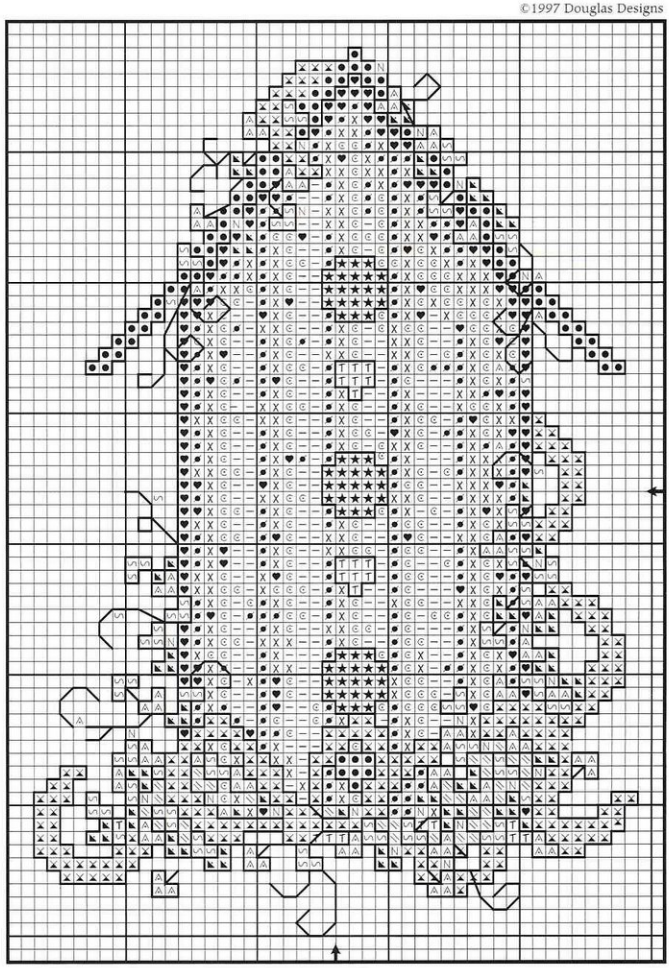


READY FOR CHRISTMAS

(Photo is on page 22. Color code is on page 42.)

Christmas Egg Nog Pie

1 teaspoon gelatin
1 teaspoon cold water
1 cup milk
½ cup sugar
2 tablespoons corn starch
½ teaspoon salt
3 egg yolks, beaten
1 tablespoon butter
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup whipping cream, whipped
9-inch baked pie shell

Soak gelatin in cold water. Scald milk in double boiler. Combine sugar, corn starch, and salt. Mix well. Add mixture to scalded milk. Cook until thick and smooth. Cook 15 minutes longer in double boiler. Stir a small amount of mixture into egg yolks. Return egg-yolk mixture to double boiler, stiring well, and cook a few minutes longer. Add butter and gelatin. Stir and cool. Add vanilla. Fold in whipped cream. Pour into pie shell. Refrigerate.

This takes a little time to make, but it's so good that it's worth the effort. My mom has made this every Christmas for as long as I can remember.

READY FOR CHRISTMAS

Designed by Virginia Douglas of Douglas Designs

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
–	3753	7976	128	antique blue, ul. vy. lt.
◐	3752	7876	976	antique blue, vy. lt.
X	932	7050	343	antique blue, lt.
◪	931	7051	921	antique blue, med.
♥	930	7052	922	antique blue, dk.
⧵	986	6021	246	forest, vy. dk.
ᔕ	368	6016	214	pistachio, lt.
⩓	3347	6266	267	yellow-green, med.
◪	890	6021	212	pistachio, ul. dk.
⊤	433	5471	944	brown, med.
●	898	5476	360	coffee brown, vy. dk.
★	310	8403	403	black

Kreinik Blending Filament

⧗ 080HL	garnet
bs 009	emerald

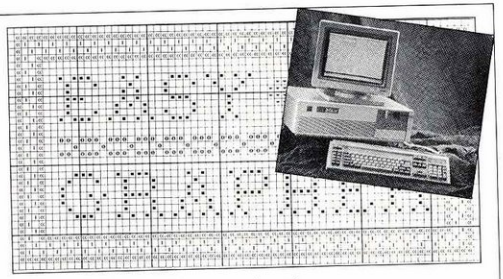
Mill Hill Antique Glass Beads

N 03003	antique cranberry

Fabric: 14-count brown perforated plastic from Darice, Inc.
Stitch count: 68H x 46W
Design size: 4⅞" x 3⅜"

Instructions: Cross stitch using three strands of floss. Backstitch using two strands of blending filament. Attach bead cluster where N appears, using a half cross stitch, matching floss, and stringing three beads per stitch.

Finishing instructions:
Attach a bow made from ⅛"-wide burgundy ribbon on top of the stitched bow at the bottom of the ornament. Use tacky glue to bond a piece of lace onto the back. After it dries, cut out along perforation one square away from stitching. Attach hanger.



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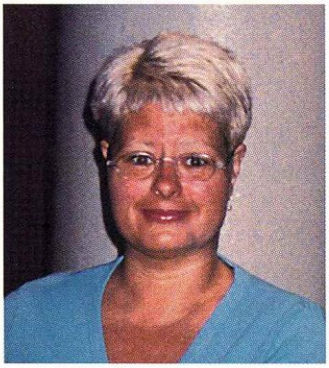
Beth Hendzlik



My fondest Christmas memories are the wonderful letters I received on Christmas Day, placed by the empty cookie plate I had left Christmas Eve (with cookies on it, of course). They were writings from Santa's helper to my brother and me that made believing so much more magical. I looked so forward to awakening Christmas Day just to find my letter left by the cookie plate. As I grew older and one year I could read the letter completely by myself, I realized the writing looked so familiar–like my grandfather's. And, I remember looking up at him sitting by the Christmas tree on that snowy Christmas morning with a smile and a tear on my face.

ERWIN THE ELF
Designed by Beth Hendzlik
of Fanci That Patterns, Inc.

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads

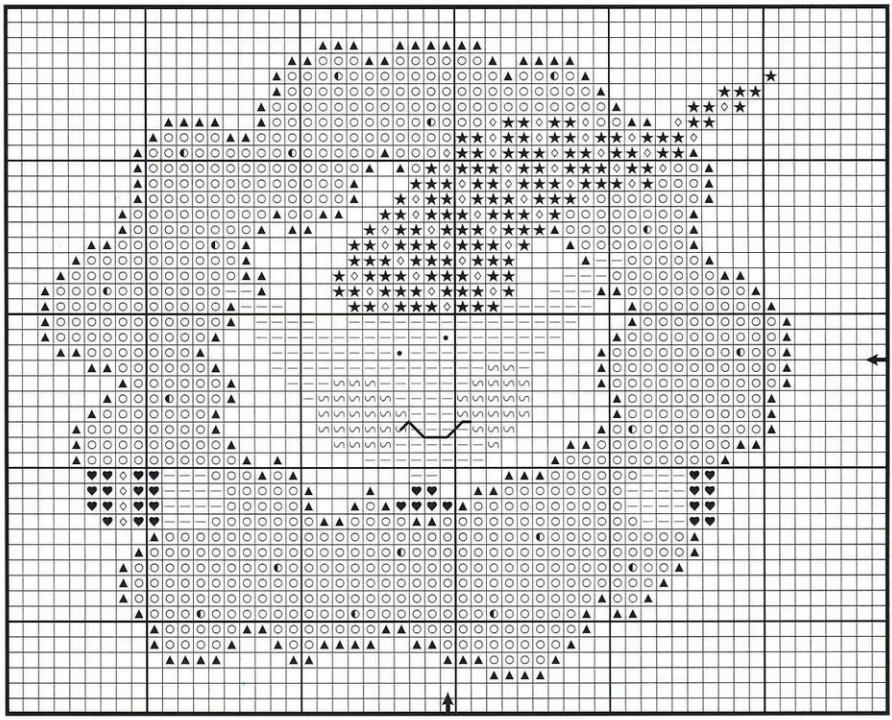
◊ 1140	Oatmeal
◐ 0310	Claret
♥ 0340	Red Grape
○ 0150	Evergreen
★ 0330	Cherry Wine
▲ 0110	Dried Thyme
s 0720	Victorian Pink
• 1110	Sable

DMC	Coats Anchor®		
– 3779	2337	4146	terra-cotta, ul. vy. lt.

Fabric: 28-count Muffin linen from Green Mountain Hand Dyed Linens
Stitch count: 52H x 53W
Design size: 3¾" x 3⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand 0330 Cherry Wine.

Finishing instructions:
Using ¼" burgandy satin ribbon, tie a small bow and tack in place at bottom center of stitched wreath. Sew small jingle bell to tip of hat. Mount stitched piece on 4⅛" round Stik n' Puff, following manufacturer's instructions. Glue ribbon hanger to top-center back and 6" candy stitch to bottom-center back, if desired. Cover ornament back with felt.



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ERWIN THE ELF
(Photo is on page 22.)

Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

Lauren Sauer

The music of Christmas, sacred and secular, has always been an important part of the festivities for me. Candlelight services on Christmas Eve were made more mystical because of the beauty of the familiar songs and music.

My design was inspired by the words of Robert Herrick, a British poet of the seventeenth century. They have been set to music by John Rutter.

"What Sweeter Music"
What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
And give the honour to this day,
That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn,
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis he is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and lustre, public mirth,
To heaven, and the under-earth.

We see him come, and know him ours
Who, with his sunshine and his showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart.

Which we will give him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King,
And Lord of all this revelling.
What sweeter music can we bring,
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
(Robert Herrick, 1591–1674)

THE DARLING OF THE WORLD IS COME
Designed by Lauren Sauer
of Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
–	white	1001	01	white
v	754	3146	6	peach flesh, lt.
//	758	3868	868	terra-cotta, lt.
■	801	5475	353	coffee, dk.
◊	950	2336	376	flesh
\	951	3335	933	flesh, vy. lt.
↗	3770	3334	1011	flesh, ul. vy. lt.
○	3774	2331	778	flesh, vy. lt.
a	3779	2337	4146	terra-cotta, ul. vy. lt.

The Thread Gatherer Silk 'n Colors

U 029	Grape Melange
E 063	In the Reds
\ 034	A Bride's Blush
N 025	Forest of Greens
♥ 036	Blue Violet
006	Stormy Skies
060	Burnished Gold

The Caron Collection Soie Cristale

▽ 7041	clear blue
△ 7061	gray-blue, dk.
X 5011	moss green, dk.
7063	gray-blue, med.

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads

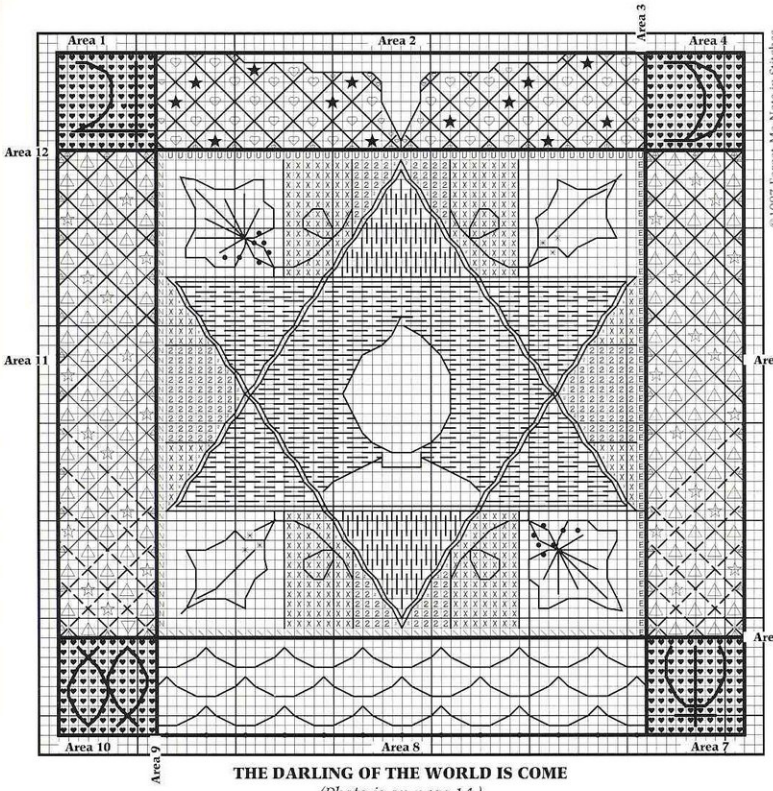
. 1140	Oatmeal
◆ 1120	Cherry Bark
✳ 0810	Purple Iris
• 0330	Cherry Wine
1130	Wood Smoke
0210	Blue Jay
0240	Midnight
0220	Morning Glory

Kreinik #5 Japan Thread

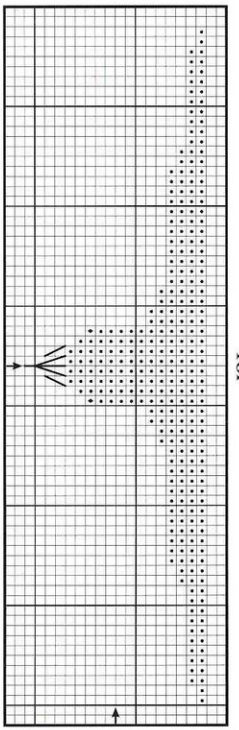
gold	gold

Fabric: 32-count Lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 70 x 70
Design size: 4⅜" x 4⅜"

Instructions:
Areas 1, 4, 7, and 10–Backstitch using one strand 029 Grape Melange.
Area 2–Referring to detail chart, work tent stitch over one thread for dove, using two strands 1140 Oatmeal. Cross stitch over one thread for dove's eyes, using one strand 1120 Cherry Bark. Work long stitch for dove's beak, using one strand 1130 Wood Smoke. (**NOTE:** Outline on main chart is for placement purposes only and is not to be stitched.) Work diamond-eyelet stitch for background surrounding dove, using one strand 7041 and compensating as needed around dove. Work diamond-eyelet stitch where ★ appears, using one strand 7041, and then cross stitch over four threads on top of diamond-eyelet stitch, using one strand of Japan thread.
Area 3–Work stem stitch for line, edged cross stitch, and then stem stitch for line, using two strands 063 In the Reds. (**NOTE:** Turn linen 45° and work stitches from left to right.) Referring to photo on page 14, alternate overlapping of stem stitches at corners.
Areas 5 and 11–Work quadruple cross stitch, using one strand 7061. Work quadruple cross stitch where ☆ appears, using one strand 7061, and then cross stitch over four threads on top of quadruple cross stitch, using one strand of Japan thread. Backstitch on the diagonal between quadruple cross stitches, using one strand 0240 Midnight for thicker lines on chart and one strand 0210 Blue Jay for thinner lines on chart. Do not backstitch broken lines on chart.
Area 6–Work stem stitch for line, edged cross stitch, and then stem stitch for line, using two strands 034 A Bride's Blush. (**NOTE:** Turn linen 45° and work stitches from left to right.) Referring to photo on page 14, alternate overlapping of stem stitches at corners.
Area 8–Satin stitch water, using one strand each 0220 Morning Glory and 7063 for top layer, one strand each 0210 Blue Jay and 7063 for second layer, one strand each 0240 Midnight and 7061 for third layer, and one strand each 006 Stormy Skies and



THE DARLING OF THE WORLD IS COME
(Photo is on page 14.)



AREA 2 DETAIL CHART (OVER ONE)

7041 for bottom layer. (**NOTE:** Scalloped lines on chart represent color breaks and are not to be stitched.)

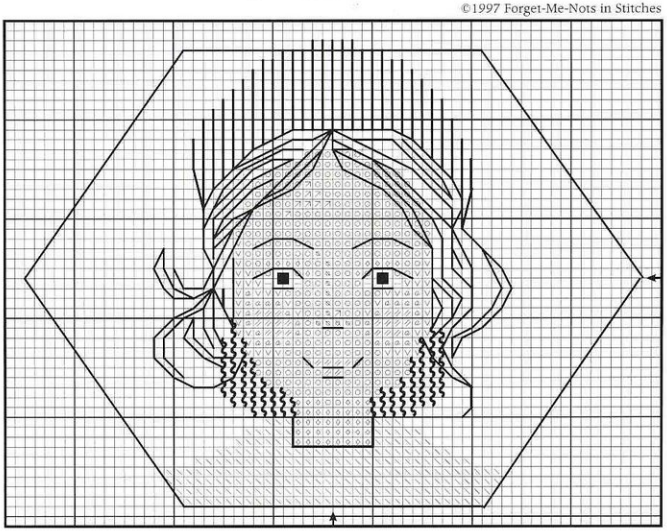
Area 9–Work stem stitch for line, edged cross stitch, and then stem stitch for line, using two strands 025 Forest of Greens. (**NOTE:** Turn linen 45° and work stitches from left to right.) Referring to photo on page 14, alternate overlapping of stem stitches at corners.

Area 12–Work stem stitch for line, edged cross stitch, and then stem stitch for line, using two strands 029 Grape Melange. (**NOTE:** Turn linen 45° and work stitches from left to right.) Referring to photo on page 14, alternate overlapping of stem stitches at corners.

Inner square–Cross stitch where 2 appears, using one strand each 025 Forest of Greens and 5011. Backstitch holly leaves, ivy leaves, and tendrils, using one strand 025 Forest of Greens. Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads for ivy berries, using two strands 0810 Purple Iris. Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads for holly berries, using two strands 0330 Cherry Wine.

NOTE: Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

©1997 Forget-Me-Nots in Stitches



CHRIST CHILD DETAIL CHART (OVER ONE)

Star of David–Work stem stitch for outer line of each large triangle, using one strand of Japan thread. Work stem stitch for inner line of triangle pointing north, using one strand 036 Blue Violet. Work stem stitch for inner line of triangle pointing south, using one strand 029 Grape Melange. Work running stitch in direction indicated by broken lines on chart to fill six points of star, using one strand Japan thread.

Christ child–Referring to detail chart, cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss. Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads for eyes, using one strand 801/5475/353. (**NOTE:** Outline on main chart is for placement purposes only and is not to be stitched.) Backstitch lips, using one strand 356/2975/9575. Backstitch eyes and nose, using one strand 407/2337/883. Backstitch eyelashes, using one strand 433/5471/944. Backstitch eyebrows, using one strand 434/5000/370. Work stem stitch for hair behind neck where wavy line appears, using one strand 434/5000/370. Work stem stitch for remaining hair, using one strand 060 Burnished Gold. (**NOTE:** Add "streaks" of 434/5000/370 as desired.) Referring to main chart, work running stitch for background, using one strand 006 Stormy Skies for upper quarter, one strand 0240 Midnight for second quarter, one strand 0210 Blue Jay for third quarter, and one strand 0220 Morning Glory for fourth quarter. (**NOTE:** In order for color breaks to blend, work nine rows in one color and then skip one row, work one row, skip one row, and work one row. Begin next color by filling in the skipped rows. Continue by working nine rows, etc.) Referring to detail chart, work long stitches for nimbus (crown) and for robe neckline, using one strand of Japan thread.

Ornament outline–Backstitch around ornament, using one strand 063 In the Reds.

Finishing instructions:

For ornament backing, use second piece of linen the same size as the front. Personalize as desired and backstitch outline of ornament (as for front), using one strand 063 In the Reds. Cut two pieces of sturdy cardboard about ⅛" smaller (on all sides) than finished size of ornament. Place piece of cardboard atop wrong side of stitched ornament front. Fold each corner of linen on the bias to wrong side right up to backstitching. Fold straight edges to wrong side along backstitching to form mitered corners. Using sewing thread, sew together the folded edges of each mitered corner. Repeat with second piece of cardboard for ornament back. Cut third piece of cardboard ⅜" smaller (on all sides) than finished size of ornament. With right sides out, place third piece of cardboard between ornament front and back. Using one strand 063 In the Reds, sew ornament front and back together by catching backstitching. (**Optional:** Attach beads or other "findings" where • appears at intersecting grid lines along bottom edge of chart, using two strands 063 In the Reds.) Twisted-cording trim was made using 063 In the Reds. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 95.

"From Merry's Heart"

Merry Cox

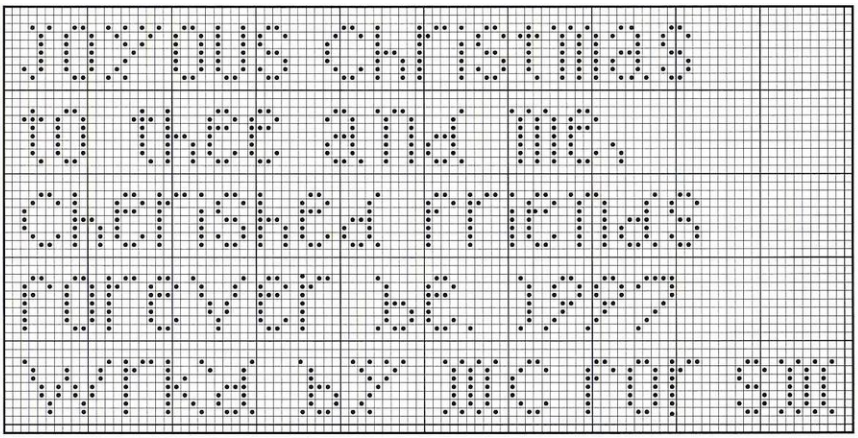
Memories of Christmas: A Tassel Tale

When my daughters, Anna (now 24) and Leah (now 21), were in elementary school, their teachers knew I was a stitcher. Occasionally, they would ask me to do a project with the students. One year at Christmastime, Leah's second-grade teacher asked me to come up with something the kids could make for their mothers. Immediately, I started to think about some of the projects I had done in Anna's classes, but I wanted this to be totally different. After all, some siblings might now be in Leah's room; and they wouldn't want to give the same gift. Then, it came to me.

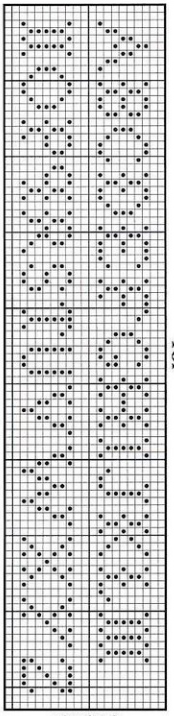
What about tassel key rings? They would be six inches long and made out of colorful rug yarn. Leah was appalled; she hated the whole idea. Her reaction didn't deter me. I kept going and made up samples. Still, she didn't want me to do it. She said there was no way she was going to school on that day. I kept going. I went to the craft store and bought large key rings and rug yarn in many colors. At home, I measured off specific amounts of yarn and rolled them into balls for the tassels. I cut cardboard just the perfect size for each student and then cut lengths of contrasting colors of yarn to tie the neck of each tassel. The day came, and I almost had to drag Leah to school. She didn't want to help me carry supplies from the car to the classroom; and once we were there, she acted as if she didn't even know me!

Finally, I began. "If your mom used this big tassel for her keys, they would never get lost again. Or, she could put it on her scissors and that way they wouldn't get buried in the sofa." The kids loved it. They didn't want to stop! I glanced at Leah, and the look on her face was worth it all. She was beaming with pride that her mom's project was such a hit. Later, on our way home, she was so precious. She thanked me and thanked me.

Funny how things turn out sometimes! The best part for me was later in the year and even the next year. I would bring cupcakes or come to an event at school and see a mother with her keys on one of the "special tassels." That's love!



JOYOUS CHRISTMAS VERSE (OVER ONE)



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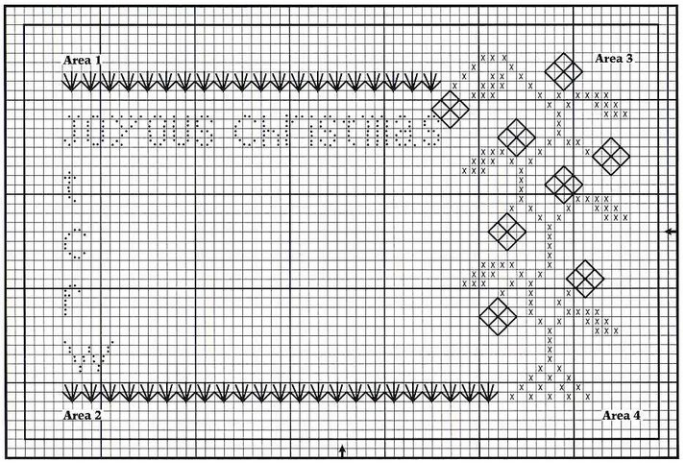
JOYOUS CHRISTMAS ALPHABET (OVER ONE)



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JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
(Photo is on page 12.)

NOTE: Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

JOYOUS CHRISTMAS
Designed by Merry Cox
of "From Merry's Heart"

	DMC	Coats Anchor®	
•	939	7160	152 navy, vy. dk.

	Weeks Dye Works	
X	1276	Blue Spruce

Kreinik		
Soie d'Alger	DMC	
4624	815	garnet, med.

Fabric: 32-count sandstone linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 44H x 67W
Design size: 2¾" x 4¼"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Work continental stitch over one thread for lettering, using one strand 939/7160/152.

Areas 1 and 2–Work diamond ray stitch, using one strand 1276 Blue Spruce.

Area 3–Work queen stitch where ◊ appears, using one strand 4624/815.

Area 4–Work chain stitch over two threads, using one strand 1276 Blue Spruce.

Finishing instructions:
For ornament backing, use second piece of linen the same size as the front. Work chain-stitch border, using one strand 1276 Blue Spruce. Trim seam allowance area to approximately one-inch beyond chain-stitch border for ornament front and back. Cut two pieces of posterboard about ⅛" smaller (on all sides) than inside of chain-stitch border. Cut two layers "Warm and Natural" quilt batting the same size as posterboard piece. Place batting and then posterboard atop wrong side of stitched ornament front inside chain-stitch border area. Fold seam allowance over batting and posterboard. Repeat for ornament back. With right sides out, place ornament front and back together so that chain stitches are side by side. Using one strand 1276 Blue Spruce, sew ornament front and back together by catching chain stitches. Twisted-cording hanger was made using DMC 934 #5 Coton Perlé. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 95. Tassel was made using 934/6270/862 and 4624/815. Turn to page 95 for tassel-making how-tos.

Ginger & Spice

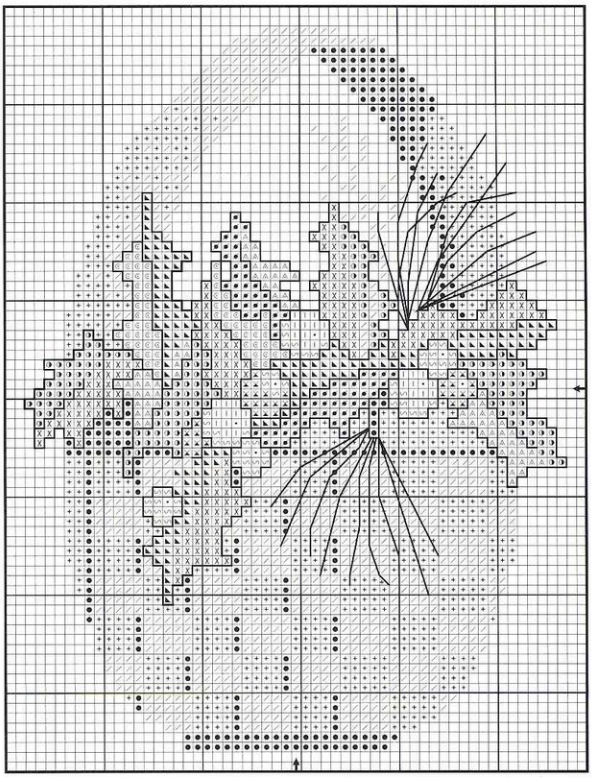
Ginger Gouger Miller

What is more perfect to fill a *Nantucket Christmas Basket* at the holidays but "Sand Tart" cookies! My favorite recipe for "Sand Tarts" is from the old Westinghouse Cookbook published by Simon and Shuster, New York, in 1954, and given out to customers who bought new appliances from Westinghouse. My grandmother had the book in her kitchen, and I became its owner after my grandmother died. It is a basic and very handy book, even today with all of our convenience foods. Some things made the "old" way are still best!

Sand Tarts

1 cup shortening
1 cup butter or margarine
2 cups granulated sugar
½ teaspoon salt
2 eggs
¼ teaspoon almond flavoring
3 cups all-purpose flour, sifted before measuring

Preheat oven to 400°. Cream shortening, butter or margarine, sugar, and salt until light and fluffy. Add well-beaten eggs and mix well. Stir in flavoring and add sifted flour. Blend ingredients thoroughly. Roll in balls, the size of a walnut, and place about one inch apart on a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 400° for 8–10 minutes. Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack immediately after baking. These cookies will spread out and become thin, crisp cookies when baked and will keep nicely in a covered crock for at least two weeks.
Yield: about 5 dozen



NANTUCKET CHRISTMAS BASKET
(Photo is on page 24.)

NANTUCKET CHRISTMAS BASKET
Designed by Ginger Gouger Miller of Ginger & Spice

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
◑	906	6256	256	parrot green, med.
◞	702	6239	239	kelly green
X	910	6031	229	emerald, dk.
◖	501	6878	878	blue-green, dk.
◬	470	6010	267	avocado, lt.
◣	986	6021	246	forest, vy. dk.
|	321	3500	47	red
∽	304	3401	19	red, med.
⧗	814	3044	44	garnet, dk.
•	white	1001	01	white
⁄	3032	5392	903	mocha, med.
+	840	5379	379	beige-brown, med.
●	839	5360	360	beige-brown, dk.

DMCFT	
2469	avocado
2471	avocado, vy. lt.

Fabric: 18-count white Aida
Stitch count: 74H x 55W
Design size: 4⅛" x 3⅛"

Instructions: Cross stitch using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. Work straight stitch for pine needles, using one strand of DMC Flower Thread (DMCFT) and alternating colors.

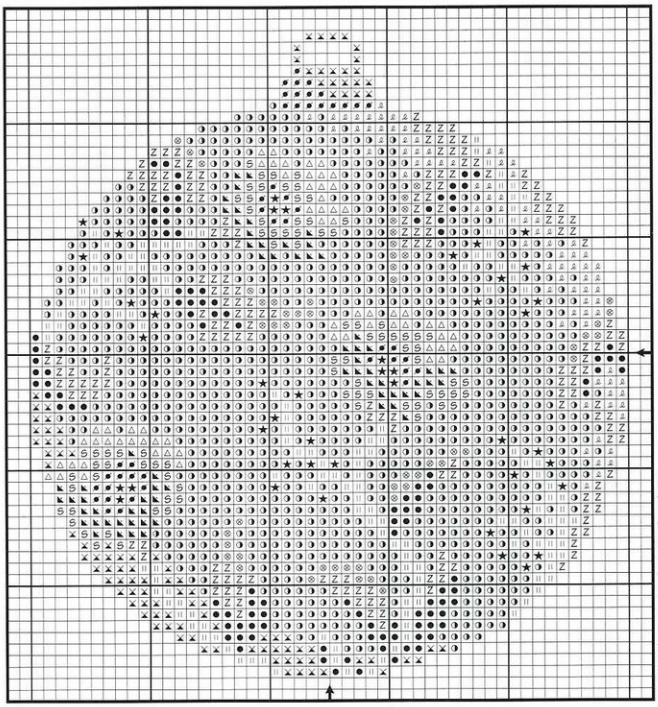
Backstitch instructions:

814	3044	44	berries
986	6021	246	leaves

Finishing instructions:
Mount stitched piece on 8" x 5½" oval foamcore with thin piece of batting between fabric and foamcore. Braided trim was made using three full strands 1007 Holiday Watercolours from The Caron Collection. Cover back of ornament with felt.

Graphs by Barbara & Cheryl, Inc.

Cheryl Walker



©1997 Graphs by Barbara & Cheryl, Inc.

FLORAL CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

(Photo is on page 18.)

Oven-Barbecued Cranberry Chicken

4 chicken breasts, skinned
¼ cup vegetable oil
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
½ cup chopped onion
¼ cup chopped celery
1 cup whole berry cranberry sauce
½ cup catsup
1 tablespoon brown sugar
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar

Cook chicken in a large skillet in hot oil over medium high heat until lightly brown on both sides. Drain on paper towels, discarding oil. Arrange chicken in a lightly greased 11 x 7½-inch baking dish; sprinkle with salt and pepper. Cook onion and celery in skillet over medium heat until tender, stirring often. Stir in cranberry sauce and remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil; remove from heat, and spoon over chicken. Bake at 325° for one hour, basting every 15 minutes.

Yield: 4 servings

FLORAL CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

Designed by Cheryl Walker
of Graphs by Barbara & Cheryl, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor*	
S	304	3401	19	red, med.
△	309	3284	42	rose, dp.
◑	676	2874	887	old gold, lt.
⁄	677	2410	886	old gold, vy. lt.
◛	680	2876	907	old gold, dk.
⁄	729	2875	874	old gold, med.
◛	815	3000	22	garnet, med.
●	895	6021	246	green, dk.
‖	986	6021	246	forest, vy. dk.
Z	987	6258	244	forest, dk.
⊗	989	6266	242	forest
	902	3083	897	garnet, vy. dk.

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

★	02013	red red

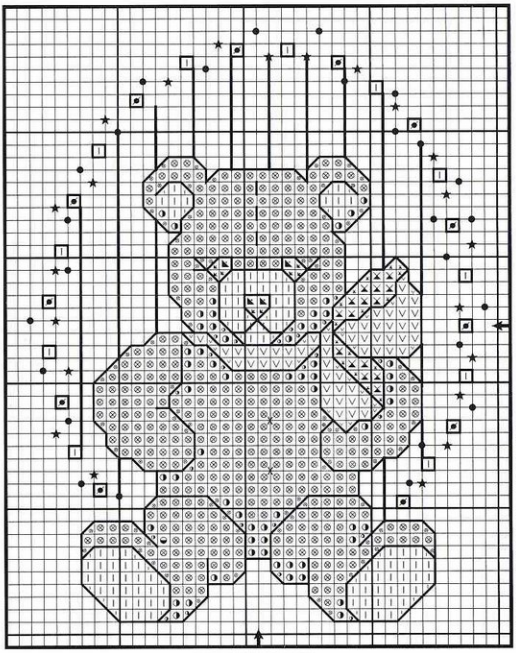
Fabric: 36-count antique white Edinborough® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 56H x 50W
Design size: 3⅛" x 2⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Attach beads for berries and centers of flowers, using 902/3083/897.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using two skeins 815/3000/22. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

Graphworks International, Inc.

Mary Bartley Stockett



TEDDY BEAR
(Photo is on page 16.)

Every Christmas season was a time that revolved around the hustle and bustle of my grandparents' house. Every day for weeks before the big event, I would be excited and joyful from my daily visits to see them. Each and every afternoon, the warmly dressed mailman made his rounds and stuffed the day's delivery into Grandaddy and Grandma's oversized mailbox. Oversized it was because of the hundreds of cards and good tidings they received from friends, acquaintances, and loved ones. It was almost inconceivable that they could know so many people. At least two to three dozen or even more arrived daily, and I anxiously watched as my grandfather carefully opened each and every one. In a large green leather-bound book, they would diligently check off the name on every card received. They sent as many cards as they received. Some would include family photos, and I would giggle at the occasional pooch dressed up in Santa gear. I would treasure the special stamps and postmarks that would come from afar.

But most importantly, I would study the beautiful images on each and every card. I was especially delighted to find the special ones featuring my favorite images, teddy bears and dolls or toys. I believe my love of art blossomed each year as a brand new selection of greeting cards arrived to be admired.

Forevermore, I will always see my grandfather's smile broaden across his face as he shared the cards of well-wishes with my grandmother. It is a sweet picture that is imprinted on my memory and a blessed remembrance of the Christmas season.

TEDDY BEAR

Designed by Mary Bartley Stockett of Graphworks International, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
◑	434	5000	370	brown, lt.
⊗	436	5943	362	tan
|	676	2874	887	old gold, lt.
v	726	2295	295	topaz, lt.
◪	913	6225	204	Nile green, med.
◥	3799	8999	236	pewter gray, dk.
⧗	3820	5363	306	straw, dk.
bs	955	6030	206	Nile green, lt.

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

★	02011	Victorian gold
●	02013	red red

La-petite 1/8" Buttons

X	142 p-18	white

Fabric: 14-count white Aida from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 48H x 38W
Design size: 3½" x 2¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. Attach beads and buttons, using one strand matching floss.

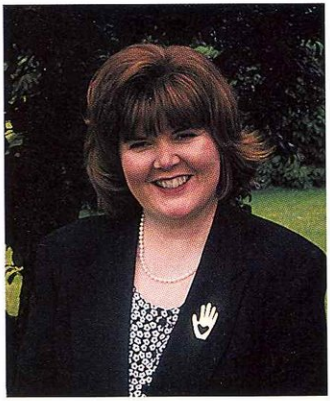
Backstitch (bs) instructions:

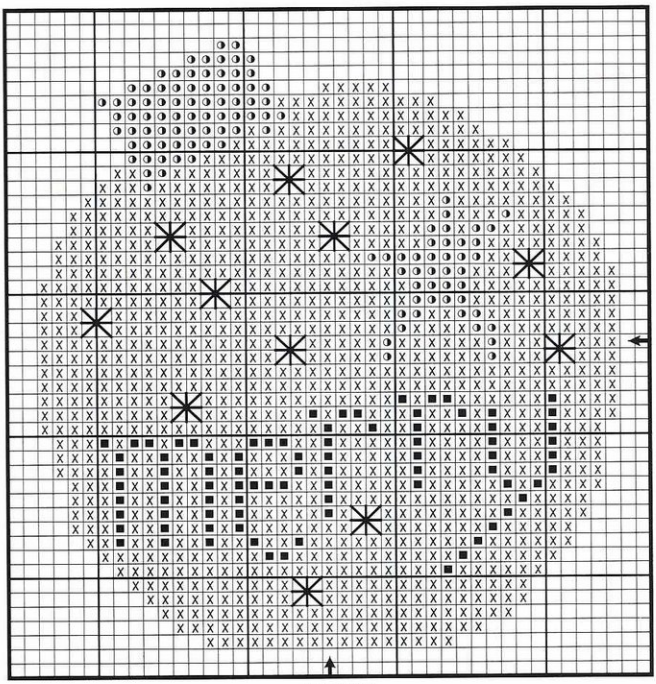
955	6030	206	vertical background lines
3799	8999	236	remainder of backstitching

Finishing instructions:
Mount in frame from Framecraft Miniatures, Ltd. Purchased ¾" red organza ribbon is by Midori, Inc.

Heart in Hand Needleart

Cecilia Turner





©1997 Heart in Hand Needleart

MERRY!

(Photo is on page 16.)

Christmas. Shiny packages of promises. Wafting scents of baking cookies. Twinkling colored lights. Advent candles. Anticipation. Christmas.

The waiting was more than my brothers and sister and I could stand. My sister, Julie, the eldest, and I would take turns being lookout while we searched Mom and Dad's closet (the secret gift stash!) for unwrapped presents. (Didn't take Mom long to figure out she had to wrap gifts as soon as she got them, or we'd sniff them out!) Despite our sleuthing, Mom managed a surprise or two.

The selection of the Christmas tree was a family outing. (We always argued about how tall a tree to get for the cathedral ceiling!) And once we had ours decorated, there was the traditional family outing to drive around the surrounding neighborhoods to see all the lights. There was something magical about seeing all those lights twinkling.

Finally Christmas Eve arrived. The sucession of the Advent candles told us the day had come. All we had worked for was wrapped up in this one special evening. The family would gather around the tree. Dad, Mom, Julie, David, John, myself, Aunts Clo and Dolores from Saint Louis and Uncle Bill from Rochester. But before the presents could be distributed . . . the Story. Dad read the Christmas story, as retold in his own words in a book Dad had written and had published. Once the real story of Christmas was read, the magical evening had begun.

Now, years later, the faces around the tree have changed. There have been births and deaths, marriages and divorces, joys and sorrows. But we still count on Dad to read the Christmas story, now with grandchildren on his knee. With each word of the story, you see the magic of the night in the sparkling little ones' eyes.

Christmas. Shiny packages of promises. Wafting scents of baking cookies. Twinkling colored lights. Advent candles. Anticipation. Christmas.

MERRY!

Designed by Cecilia Turner
of Heart in Hand Needleart

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads	
X 0330	Cherry Wine
■ 1040	Black Crow
◑ 0420	Gold Leaf
✳ 1140	Oatmeal

Fabric: 30-count Holly linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 43H x 39W
Design size: 2⅞" x 2⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work Smyrna cross stitch over four threads where ✳ appears, using two strands Oatmeal floss. **NOTE:** Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Twisted-cording trim was made using coton perlé. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

Finishing by Sew It Seams

The Heart's Content, Inc.

Maureen P. Appleton

Our favorite holiday tradition is a neighborhood custom of lighting 30,000 luminaries to show the way of the Christ Child. Each family in our subdivision lights approximately 150 luminaries on Christmas Eve in front of their home, drive, and walkways. It is absolutely breathtaking to walk the trails with thousands of candles flickering against the fresh snow and the midnight sky. The candles burn 24 hours into Christmas Day. This is truly a tradition that our family has enjoyed for generations as it reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas.

Here is our favorite Christmas cookie recipe:

Chocolate Star Peanut Blossoms
½ cup butter
½ cup brown sugar
⅓ cup peanut butter
1 egg
½ cup white sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1½ cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
Pinch of salt
Chocolate star candies (approximately 75)

Mix together all ingredients except for chocolate candies. Shape dough into balls and roll in sugar. Bake at 325° for 8 minutes. Press one chocolate candy into center of each cookie. Bake another 2–5 minutes.
Yield: about 75 cookies

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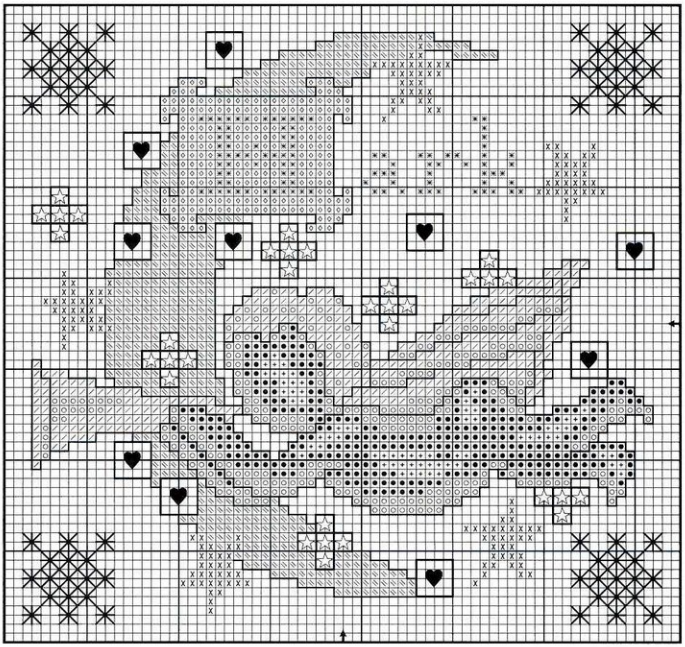


HARK
(Photo is on page 18.)

HARK
Designed by Maureen P. Appleton of The Heart's Content, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
/	680	2876	907	old gold, dk.
○	676	2874	887	old gold, lt.
•	677	2410	886	old gold, vy. lt.
+	3823	2386	386	yellow, ul. pl.
bs	611	5898	898	drab brown, dk.

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads		
✳	1120	Cherry Bark
♥	0620	Apricot Blush
☆	0830	Highland Heather
◊	1010	Slate
X	0720	Victorian Pink
✎	0610	Pineapple Sherbet

Fabric: 26-count natural unbleached linen
Stitch count: 66H x 70W
Design size: 2⅝" x 2¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. Work eyelet stitch over four threads, using one strand 0620 Apricot Blush.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

1120	Cherry Bark	"H"
611	5898 898	remainder of backstitching

Special instructions:
NOTE: Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.
Corner motifs–Work eyelet stitch over two threads, using one strand 1120 Cherry Bark.
Plus-shaped stars–Work eyelet stitch over two threads, using one strand 0830 Highland Heather.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 95 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Twisted-cording trim was made using coton perlé and pearl metallic braid. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

Hillside Samplings

Lesley Rudnicki

Chinese Fried Walnuts

6 cups water
½ cup sugar
4 cups walnuts
salad oil
salt

Make 1½ hours before serving or up to two weeks ahead.

In 4-quart saucepan over high heat, bring water to boiling, add walnuts and heat to boiling. Cook one minute. Rinse walnuts under running hot water, drain.

In large bowl with rubber spatula, gently stir warm nuts and sugar until sugar is dissolved (if necessary, let mixture stand five minutes to dissolve sugar).

In saucepan over medium heat, heat one inch salad oil to 350° on deep-fat thermomenter. With slotted spoon, add about half of walnuts to oil, fry five minutes or until golden, stirring often.

With slotted spoon, place walnuts in coarse sieve over bowl to drain. Sprinkle lightly with salt. Toss slightly to keep walnuts from sticking together. Transfer to paper towels to cool. Fry remaining nuts. Store tightly in covered container.

Yield: 4 cups

SNOWMAN'S CHRISTMAS

Designed by Lesley Rudnicki of Hillside Samplings

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
X	436	5943	362	tan
◆	355	2339	5975	terra-cotta, dk.
★	520	6318	862	fern green, dk.
○	520	6318	862	fern green, dk.
	355	2339	5975	terra-cotta, dk.
■	3799	8999	236	pewter gray, dk. (Smyrna cross stitch)
bs	433	5471	944	brown, med.
ss	3776	3336	349	mahogany, lt.

DMC #12 Coton Perlé		
•	ecru	ecru

DMC #8 Coton Perlé		
	ecru	ecru

Fabric: 32-count Stoney Point linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 49H x 49W
Design size: 3⅛" x 3⅛"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand coton perlé. Backstitch using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated. Work French knot where • appears at intersecting grid lines, using one strand 3799/8999/263 and wrapping floss around needle once.

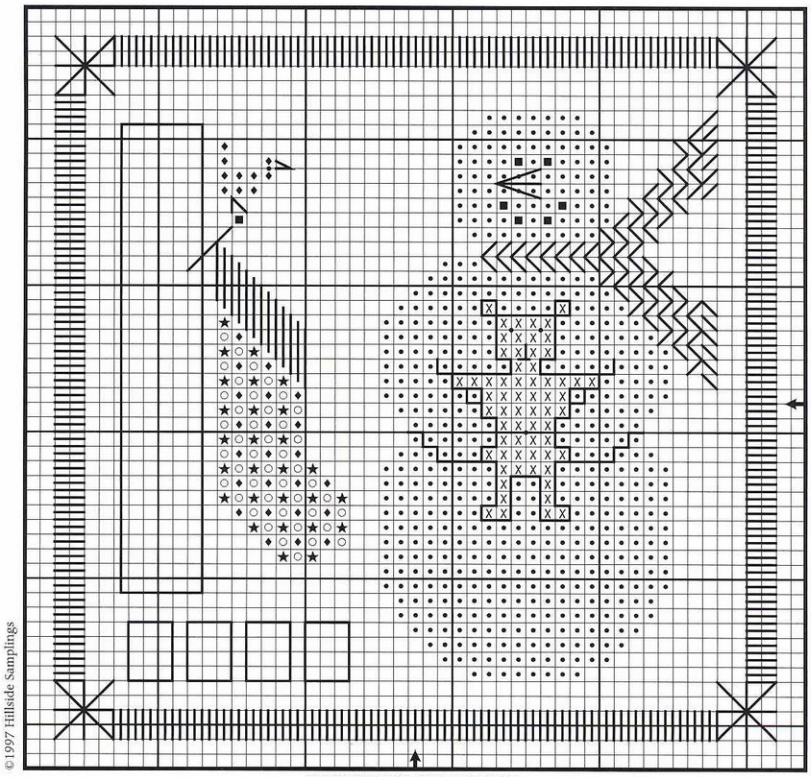
Backstitch (bs) instructions:

3799	8999	236	stocking hanger (two strands), snowman's arms
433	5471	944	teddy bear

Special instructions:
NOTE: Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.
Border–Work satin stitch for border, using one strand #8 coton perlé. Work Algerian-eye stitch for corners, using one strand #8 coton perlé.
Snowman–Work Smyrna cross stitch over two threads for eyes and mouth, using one strand of floss. Work straight stitch (ss) for nose, using two strands 3776/3336/349. Work straight stitch for scarf, using two strands 355/2339/5975 for heavy lines and two strands 520/6318/862 for lighter lines.
Teddy bear–Work straight stitch for nose and mouth, using one strand 3799/8999/236.
Bird–Work straight stitch, using one strand 436/5943/362 for bird's beak. Work straight stitch for bird's legs, using one strand 3799/8999/236.
Stocking–Work satin stitch for stocking cuff, using one strand #8 coton perlé. Work Smyrna cross stitch for knob, using two strands of floss.
Lettering–Work continental stitch over one thread for "Christmas" and for date, using two strands of floss.
NOTE: Outlined areas are for placement only–do not stitch.

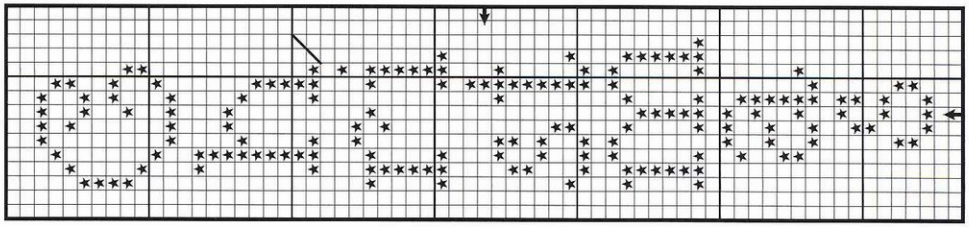
Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Twisted-cording hanger was made using ecru #8 coton perlé. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

(Charts are on page 54.)

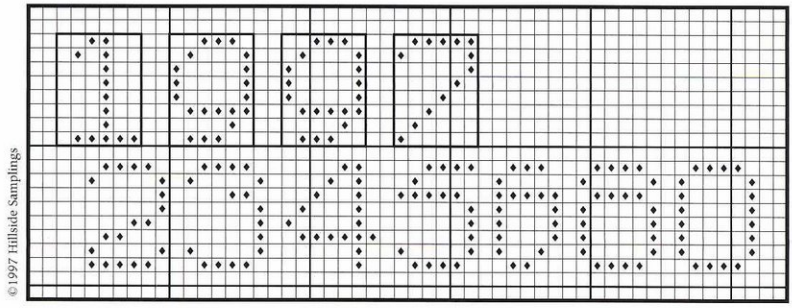


SNOWMAN'S CHRISTMAS

(Photo is on page 26. Color code is on page 53.)



LETTERING (OVER ONE)



NUMERALS (OVER ONE)

Hollie Designs

Judy M. Gibbs

Russian Teacakes

1 cup margarine, softened
½ cup confectioners sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
2¼ cups flour
¼ teaspoon salt
¾ cup finely chopped nuts

Heat oven to 400°. Mix thoroughly margarine, sugar, and vanilla. Work in flour, salt, and nuts until the dough holds together.Shape the dough into 1" balls and place them on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake 10–12 or until set, but not brown. While warm, roll in confectioners sugar. Cool and roll in sugar again.

SANTA
Designed by Judy M. Gibbs
of Hollie Designs

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

02014	black
02013	red red
00431	jade green
00150	grey

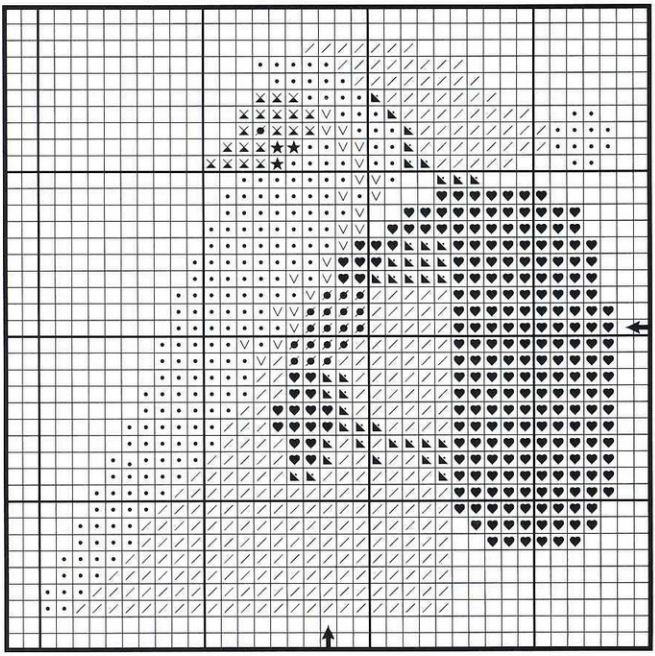
Mill Hill Antique Glass Beads

03020	dusty mauve
03015	snow white
03003	antique cranberry
03018	coral reef

Fabric: 14-count brown perforated paper
Stitch count: 35H x 35W
Design size: 2½" x 2½"

Instructions: Attach beads, using a half cross stitch and two strands of floss to match perforated paper.

Finishing instructions:
Trim within a row or two of stitching. Center and attach to small pre-finished stocking from Adam Original.



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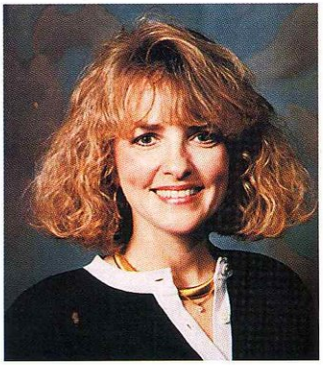
SANTA

(Photo is on page 20.)

Homespun Elegance Ltd.

Sandra J. Sullivan



This pie has been a family favorite for years. It was my grandmother's recipe; but at some point, someone discovered how easy it was to mix it in a blender. Of course, you can still do it the old-fashioned way.

We have many friends that we exchange food gifts with during the holidays, and this is one that I am asked for repeatedly. I usually start making these pies in the fall and freeze them. They keep very well for several months as long as they are stored in freezer bags.

I wrap them in khaki and red or green gingham tissue paper (double thickness), gather it up around the pie, tie with raffia, and add a recipe card for first-time recipients.

Coconut Custard Pie

7 ounces shredded coconut
13-ounce can evaporated milk
1 cup milk
1½ cups sugar
1½ teaspoon vanilla
pinch of salt
1 tablespoon butter
4 large eggs
2 unbaked 9" pie shells

With the exception of the coconut and the pie shells, put all ingredients in a blender or mix by hand. If you mix by hand, be sure to beat the eggs until they are fluffy, then add all other ingredients. Add the coconut last and blend or mix in slightly. Pour into the unbaked pie shells and put in a preheated 375° oven for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 350° and cook for 30–35 minutes longer or until a toothpick comes out clean.

If you do not like to make your own pie crust, the store-bought pie shells do very well. I always have extra pie shells and use small cookie cutters to make stars, Christmas trees, etc. to decorate the top of the pies. If you do this, add the cut-outs after the custard has started to set up. You can brush the cutouts and the pie crust with a little egg white, and they will turn a nice rich color.

I hope you enjoy this easy and delicious "old-fashioned" pie as much as my family and friends have. Happy baking and stitching!

STARRY SANTA
Designed by Sandra J. Sullivan of Homespun Elegance Ltd.

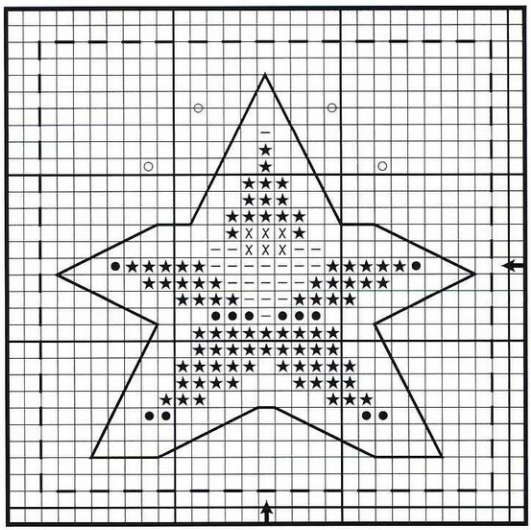
	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	3371	5478	382	black-brown
★	300	—	352	mahogany, vy. dk.
–	746	2275	275	off white
X	3772	5579	379	flesh, dk.

Homespun Elegance Ltd. Charms		
○	CBS	brass mini stars

Fabric: 28-count dirty linen Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 27H x 27W
Design size: 2" x 2"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch star outline, using two strands 3371/5478/382. Work straight stitch for eyes, using two strands 3371/5478/382. Attach charms, using two strands of matching floss.

Finishing instructions:
Turn to fringed pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 95. Work running stitch, using two strands 3371/5478/382. Hanger was made using jute twine.



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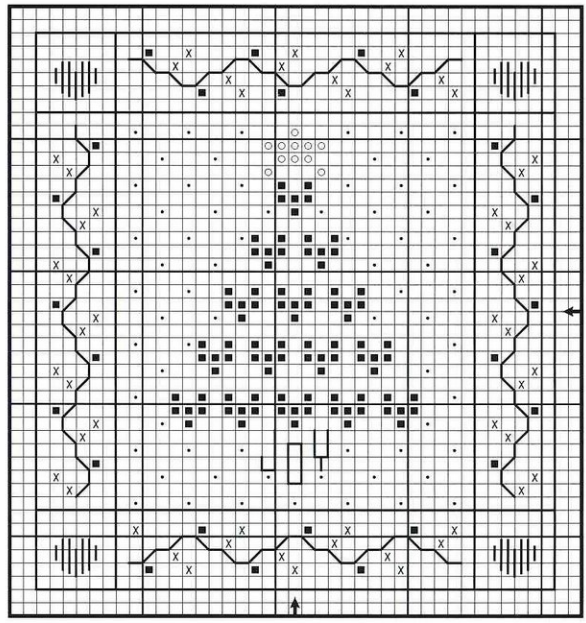
STARRY SANTA
(Photo is on page 26.)

JBW Designs

Judy Whitman



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HEARTS OF JOY
(Photo is on page 26.)

Each year for Christmas, my daughter and I compile a list of our favorite cookie recipes that we've gathered over the years. And we select our favorites to bake for family and friends who are visiting over the holidays. The recipe below is one tht I received from a very good friend years ago; and although it's not fancy, you'll find "Nut Puffs" to be quite tasty.

Nut Puffs

½ cup butter
2 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup pecans
1 cup flour
Confectioner's sugar

Beat butter until soft. Add 2 tablespoons sugar and blend until ingredients are creamy. Add 1 teaspoon vanilla. Measure, then grind 1 cup pecans. Measure 1 cup flour. Stir nuts and flour into butter mixture. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto greased cookie sheet and bake at 300° for 45 minutes. Roll in confectioner's sugar after they are removed from oven.
Yield: approximately 20 cookies (We usually double the recipe.)

HEARTS OF JOY
Designed by Judy Whitman
of JBW Designs

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
X	934	6270	862	avocado black
■	816	3410	20	garnet

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

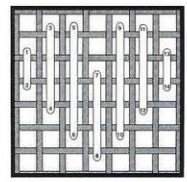
○	00557	old gold

Kreinik #4 Very Fine Braid

•	032	pearl

Fabric: 28-count dirty linen Cashel® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 42H x 39W
Design size: 3" x 2¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand very fine braid. Backstitch using two strands 934/6270/862. Referring to illustration, work satin stitch for heart, using three strands 816/3410/20.



SATIN STITCH HEART

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Twisted-cording trim was made using 816/3410/20 and gold Kreinik #4 Very Fine Braid. Turn to twisted-cording instructions on page 95. Red-and-gold ¼"-wide wired ribbon and tiny bell were purchased.

Finished by
Kalagian Needlework Services

Jemini Designs

Jeanette Rees

My husband John spent 27 years in the U.S. Navy, and most holidays were spent overseas. Christmas was always a special time with close friends because we couldn't be with our families every year. Our first Christmas overseas was Adak, Alaska, a tiny island near the tip of the Aleutian Islands, where there was no local shopping. Trees were shipped in; but it took branches from several trees to make one good one, so we bit the bullet and mail-ordered a six-foot tall artificial tree, complete with lights, ornaments, and all the trimmings. Many of those first ornaments are still special to our two children, Kathy and Bobby. We used this tree for many years–over 20. It looked real and, when decorated, was breathtaking. This tree helped set the mood for the holidays.

Christmas dinner has always been the traditional turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, gravy, etc. We added a new recipe to our annual dinner after spending the holidays with close friends one year. It's frequently requested.

Sweet Potato Casserole

3 cups mashed sweet potatoes (drained)
½ cup melted margarine
2 well-beaten eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla
⅓ cup milk

Combine and mix well. Pour into greased casserole dish.

Topping:
¾ cup firm-packed brown sugar
⅓ cup flour
½ cup chopped nuts
3 tablespoons melted margarine

Mix until crumbly and sprinkle over sweet potato mixture. Bake for 25 minutes in pre-heated 350° oven.

FLORENTINE CHRISTMAS ANGEL
Designed by Jeanette Rees
of Jemini Designs

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	225	3239	892	pink, vy. lt.
◊	761	3068	893	salmon, lt.
bs	3371	5478	382	black-brown

	DMC Rayon Floss	Marlitt	
	35200	800	snow white

	The Gentle Art Sampler Threads	
▼	0510	Cinnamon

	Rainbow Gallery Splendor Silk	
=	S822	red
X	S832	green

	Needle Necessities Floss Overdyed	
	112	Baby Blue

	Kreinik #8 Braid	
■	212	golden sand

	Kreinik Blending Filament	
	032	pearl

	Kreinik #8 Jaçeron	
	pearl purl	gold

	Mill Hill Petite Beads	
	40557	old gold

	Mill Hill Glass Treasures	
	12036	small snowflake gold

Fabric: 25-count mushroom Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 48H x 56W
Design size: 3⅞" x 4½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. Work Florentine stitch for wings. For necklace, bring needle up at *A*, string with 18 petite beads, and go down at *B*. Bring needle up at *C* and attach glass treasure by couching beaded string. For halo, couch 3" length jaçeron, using one strand matching floss.

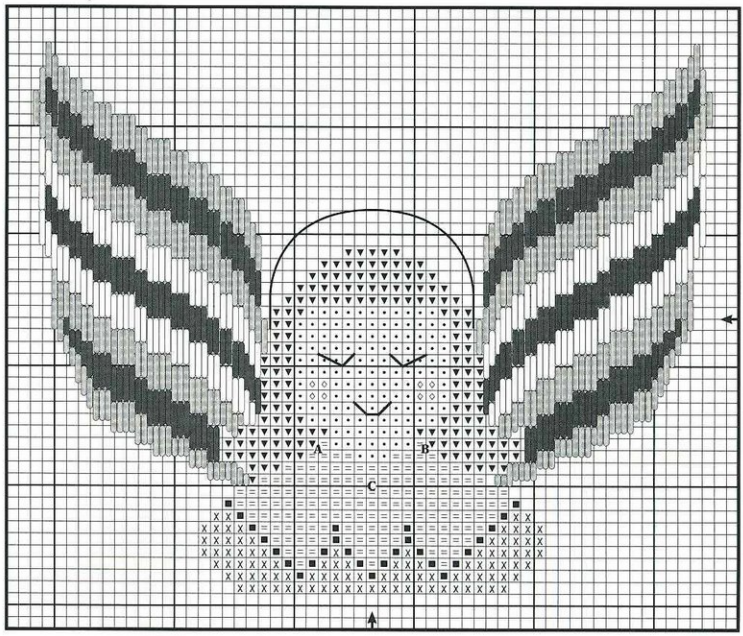
Backstitch (bs) instructions:

3371	5478	382	eyes
S822			mouth

Florentine-stitch instructions:

◊	35200	800	(two strands)
◖	212		(one strand)
◖	112		
	032		(two strands each)

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Trim is gold Facets by Kreinik.



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FLORENTINE CHRISTMAS ANGEL

(Photo is on page 28.)

The ORIGINAL - - - - -

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patent pending

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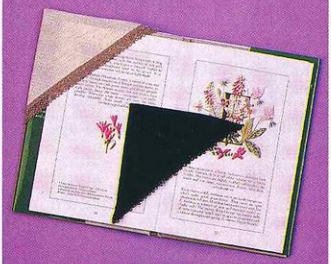

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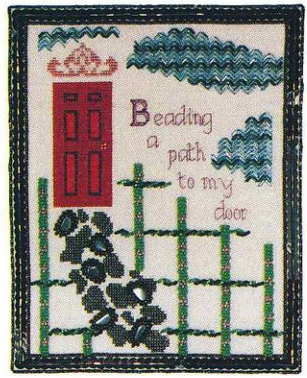

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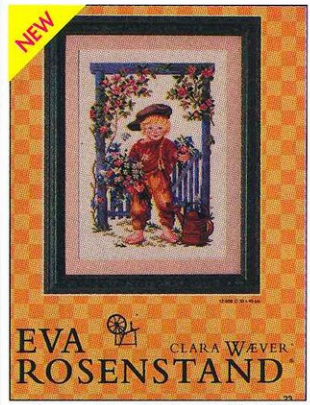

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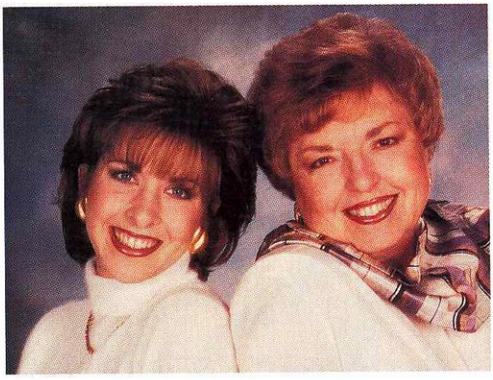
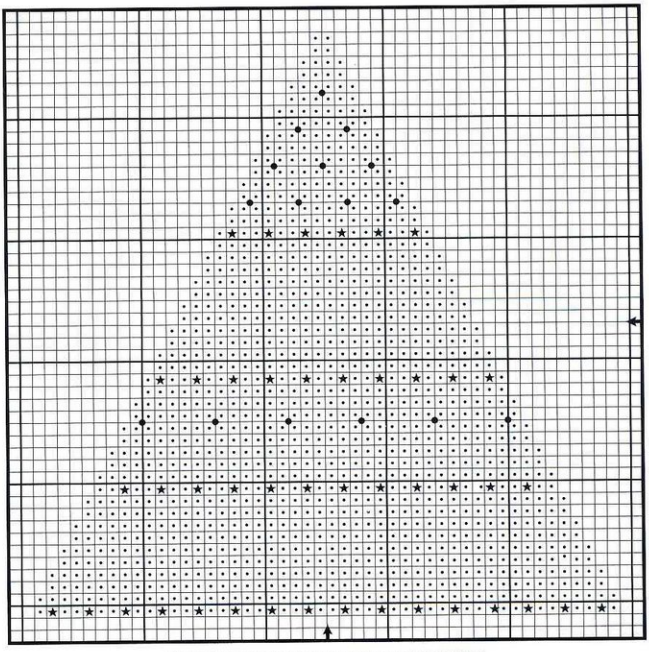
Stacy Wilson and June Grigg



When asked to participate in this special edition of *Just CrossStitch* magazine, I was certainly flattered, and I thought what a wonderful opportunity this would be to give a Christmas gift to all of you who have been so supportive of me for the past 22 years. Giving homemade Christmas gifts has long been a tradition in the Grigg household; and each year I vow not to have such a busy, hectic, and frantic time. But, you know, the truth of the matter is that I love all of the busy moments; and I, alone, control my time because I want to make Christmas special for my family and friends.

Through the years, there have been many homemade gifts made by myself, my husband, and two daughters. Some were made alone and others were joint projects. What wonderful memories these evoke. A hand-painted rock to be used as a paper weight for Dad, a birdhouse with small handprints for Nana, a cookbook full of old family recipes for Mom, mugs with very little fingerprints for Nana and Grandaddy, and a lovely poem illustrated and done in calligraphy for Dad. What cherished gifts that no amount of money could buy. For neighbors and friends, we have baked cookies, made pickles and preserves, birdfeeders out of pine cones and peanut butter, and many other gifts. But the one item made every year is cheese crackers. This recipe and the Christmas ornament are our gifts to you. The ornament was designed in large part by Stacy, my daughter, who works with me; and we combined our thoughts and ideas on the colors and textures. It was our wish to incorporate many of the stitches that we have used in our designs through the years.

Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas and may peace and happiness be with you in 1998.



©1997 June Grigg Designs, Inc.

STITCHING MEMORIES MAIN CHART

(Photo is on page 24.)

Rice Krispies® Cheese Crackers

1 stick butter
1 stick margarine
2 cups flour
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon cayenne pepper (more or less, depending on taste)
8 ounces sharp chedder cheese, grated
2 cups Rice Krispies® cereal

Cream butter and margarine. Add flour mixed with salt and pepper. Mix in cheese, blend well, add cereal. Roll amount into ball and flatten with thumb. Bake at 350° for 12–15 minutes.

STITCHING MEMORIES

Designed by June Grigg and Stacy Wilson of June Grigg Designs, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	304	3401	19	red, med.

	DMC Rayon Floss	Marlitt	
	30909	852	emerald, vy. dk.
	30913	897	Nile green, med.

30712	1034	cream
30676	1078	old gold, lt.

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

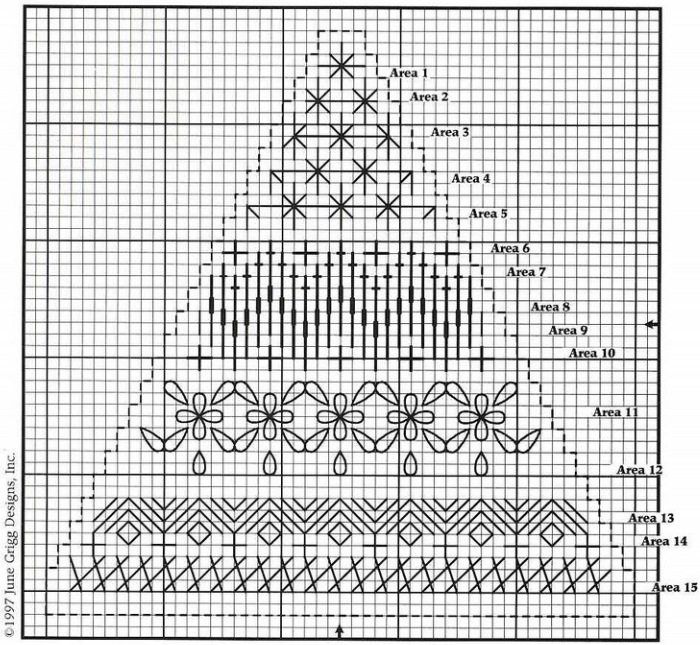
★ 00557		old gold

Fabric: 14-count brown perforated plastic
Stitch count: 48H x 48W
Design size: 3⅝" x 3⅝"

Instructions: Referring to main chart, cross stitch using two strands of floss. Attach beads, using two strands of matching floss. Work French knot, using three strands 30712/1034 and wrapping floss around needle once. Work specialty stitches atop cross stitches.

Special instructions:
NOTE: Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.
Areas 1, 3, and 5–Work star stitch, using two strands 30909/852.
Areas 2 and 4–Work star stitch, using two strands 30913/897.
Areas 6, 10, and 14–Work upright cross stitch, using two strands 30712/1034.
Areas 7 and 9–Work Bargello stitch, using two strands 30676/1078.
Area 8–Work Bargello stitch, using two strands 30913/897.
Area 11–Work lazy-daisy stitch, using one strand 30913/897.
Area 12–Work lazy-daisy stitch, using one strand 30909/852.
Area 13–Work reversed Scotch stitch, using two strands 30676/1078. Referring to photo on page 24, use two strands 30909/852 for diamond-shaped areas.
Area 15–Work plait stitch, using two strands 30913/897.

Finishing instructions:
Stitch charted design three times. Trim stitched triangles along broken lines of specialty stitches chart. With wrong sides together, stitch together two triangles on one long side. Stitch third triangle to each remaining long side, thus forming a pyramid. Make twisted cording, using one skein each DMC 3818 and DMC 562 and referring to twisted-cording instructions on page 95. Glue (or blind stitch) two strands of cording to each long edge of pyramid, covering seams. Make a tassle, using one skein each 304/3401/19, 562/6213/210, 3818/6228/923, and 5282 (gold metallic six-ply floss) and referring to tassel-making how-tos on page 95. **(Optional:** Include adornments such as flat metallic disks, pearl drops, brass charms when making tassel. Simply tie to floss and hold out of way when trimming tassel.) Loop gold cording through top of tassel for hanger. Place tassel inside pyramid with gold cording projecting through top opening. Finish by threading gold cording through a gold-domed bead cap and securing with a knot.



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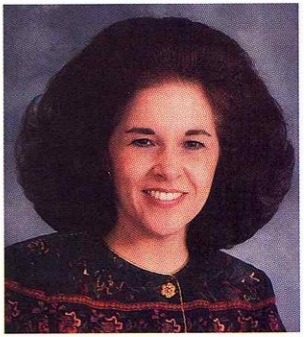
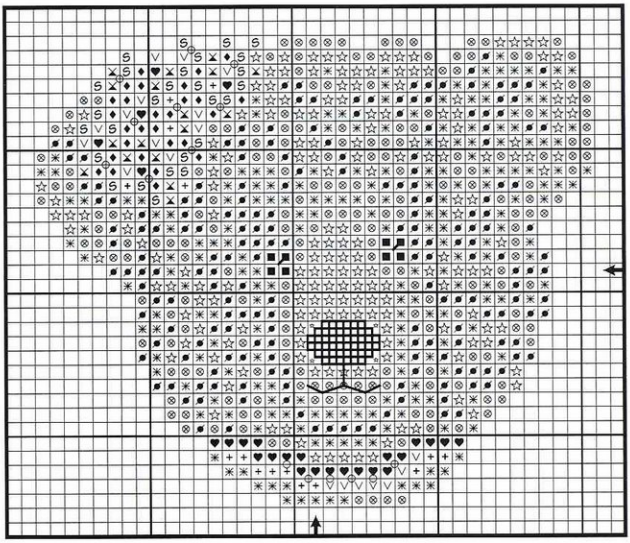
Nan Caldera





©1997 Just Nan, Inc.

BERRY

(Photo is on page 16.)

A Teddy Bear Tradition

The first teddy bear in my collection came at Christmas over 15 years ago, and a new "member" of the family has arrived every Christmas since. This does not prevent bears from wandering in at any time during the year, of course; but at Christmas, I expect someone special. I have never been disappointed.

During the "off-season," the bears live in the guest bedroom tucked into baskets or perched comfortably on the antique furniture from my childhood. When they are not entertaining overnight guests, they talk among themselves and share stories with their doll friends, Joan and Dorothy. Joan has been with me since my sixth Christmas. She is under strict orders never to reveal her age. Dorothy is a French doll, a birthday present to my grandmother in 1900. She is very wise and very proud of her advanced years and fine state of preservation. Together the two ladies keep the bear family in order.

Each December there is great excitement. Coats are brushed and ribbons adjusted in anticipation of the big trip downstairs to sit around the Christmas tree. There is always some discussion as to seating arrangements. Those who remember being dragged around the floor by Brandy when she was a kitten prefer to sit up high in chairs. The smallest bears sit among the tree branches and admire the ornaments. When everyone is finally in place and we turn the tree lights on, the scene is truly magical. Teddy bears at Christmas make all spirits bright.

I started designing the SheNANigans line to share some of my bears with stitchers everywhere. I hope you will enjoy stitching *Berry*. Display him on your tree and start your own Christmas tradition.

BERRY

Designed by Nan Caldera
of Just Nan, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
v	321	3500	47	red
◆	500	6880	879	blue-green, vy. dk.
Ꙅ	501	6878	878	blue-green, dk.
ɤ	502	6876	877	blue-green
♥	814	3044	44	garnet, dk.
+	815	3000	22	garnet, med.
bs	938	5477	381	coffee, ul. dk.
qs	white	1001	01	white
	310	8403	403	black

DMC Medicis Wool

✳	8120	flesh, med.
⊗	8501	beige-brown, vy. lt.
☆	8502	beige-brown, vy. lt.
◪	8839	flesh, dk.

Mill Hill Petite Glass Beads

○	40557	old gold

Kreinik Blending Filament

005HL	black

Fabric: 28-count Lambswool linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 33H x 39W
Design size: 2⅜" x 2⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of Medicis wool or two strands of floss. Backstitch (bs) using two strands 938/5477/381. Attach beads for holly berries, using one strand 501/6878/878 and looping through each bead twice. Attach beads in collar area, using one strand 815/3000/22 and looping through each bead twice.

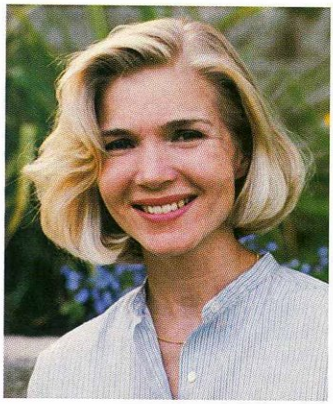
Special instructions:
Eyes–Work cross stitch where ■ appears, using two strands 310/8403/403 and three strands 005HL. Work quarter stitch (qs) for highlight in each eye where ⁄ appears, using one strand white/1001/01.
Nose–Work padded satin stitch for nose, using two strands 938/5477/381. Work horizontal lines first and then work each vertical line.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using 500/6880/879 and gold braid. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions. Tassel was made using 500/6880/879. Tassel-making how-tos appear on page 95.

Finished by
Kalagian Needlework Services

The Lilac Studio, Inc.

Cindy Rice

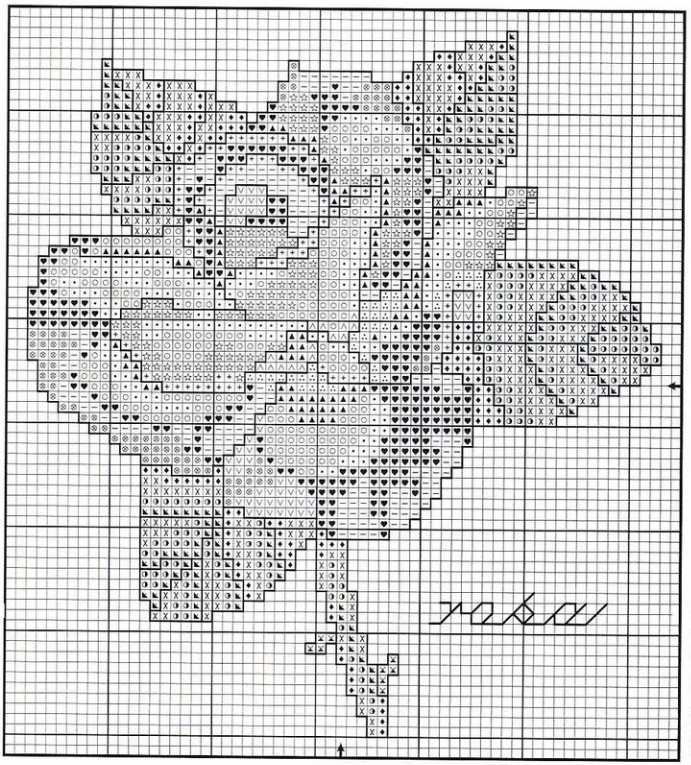


A Christmas tradition that has been in my family (and I'm sure many others, too) is baking cookies–lots of cookies. This is one of my favorites that I bake every year.

Snowball Cookies

4 cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon salt
1½ cups butter, softened
1 cup sugar
4 teaspoons vanilla
2 eggs
2 cups nuts, optional
12 ounces chocolate chips
Powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 350°. Sift together flour and salt, set aside. Blend butter, sugar, and vanilla. Beat in eggs. Stir in flour mixture. Stir in nuts and chocolate chips. Shape into 1" balls and place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 15–20 minutes. Cookies should not be allowed to brown. Cool slightly then roll in powdered sugar. **Hint:** If dough is slightly chilled before baking, the cookies will not spread as much in the oven.



©1997 The Lilac Studio, Inc.

ROSA
(Photo is on page 18.)

ROSA
Designed by Cindy Rice
of The Lilac Studio, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	white	1001	01	white
⊗	962	3151	76	dusty rose, med.
v	3687	3088	68	mauve
–	604	3001	66	cranberry, lt.
♥	605	3151	60	cranberry, vy. lt.
▲	3743	4220	869	antique violet, vy. lt.
○	819	3280	271	baby pink, lt.
∴	3042	4221	869	antique violet, lt.
+	3806	3001	62	cyclamen pink, lt.
☆	818	3281	23	baby pink
∧	745	2350	300	yellow, lt. pl.
◆	3362	6318	269	pine green, dk.
X	3363	6317	262	pine green, med.
◑	522	6316	860	fern green
◤	523	6316	859	fern green, lt.
⧗	840	5379	379	beige-brown, med.
bs	310	8403	403	black
bs	934	6270	862	avocado black
bs	3726	3084	970	mauve, med. lt.

Fabric: 32-count China white Royal Crown Danish linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 68H x 61W
Design size: 4¼" x 3⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss.

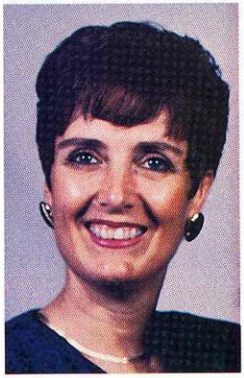
Backstitch (bs) instructions:

3726	3084	970	rose
934	6270	862	leaves, stem
310	8403	403	lettering

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. One-inch wide pink organza ribbon was used for trim and hanger and was attached to ornament at corners and center bottom and sides, using pearl beads.

Little By Little Design Co.

Cynthia Daly Bradford



My holiday memory is kind of new. I have been married one and a half years into the Bradford family. My first Christmas with my new family was warm, wonderful, and loud! One special thing Me Maw Bradford does for all of us on Christmas Eve is to have one of her grandchildren read the Christmas story out of the Bible, just to remind us why we have Christmas and to be grateful for our family and what we have. It sure makes you feel good inside.

Merry Christmas to ya'll and your family!

GOOD TIDINGS

Designed by Cynthia Daly Bradford of Little By Little Design Co.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
♥	355	2339	5975	terra-cotta, dk.
◞	437	5942	361	tan, lt.
○	712	5387	926	cream
Z	731	6844	924	olive, dk.
+	924	6008	851	gray-green, vy. dk.
◣	936	6269	269	avocado, dk.
⁄	3031	5472	381	mocha, vy. dk.

Weeks Dye Works

v	1224	Amber
X	2264	Garnet

Kreinik Blending Filament

•	002	gold

Fabric: 35-count Hog Wild Blue linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 57H x 58W
Design size: 3¼" x 3⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss or one strand blending filament. Backstitch using one strand blending filament.

Finishing instructions:
Cut a paper pattern in an arch 4¾" high by 4½" wide. Refer to page 94 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Trim was purchased.

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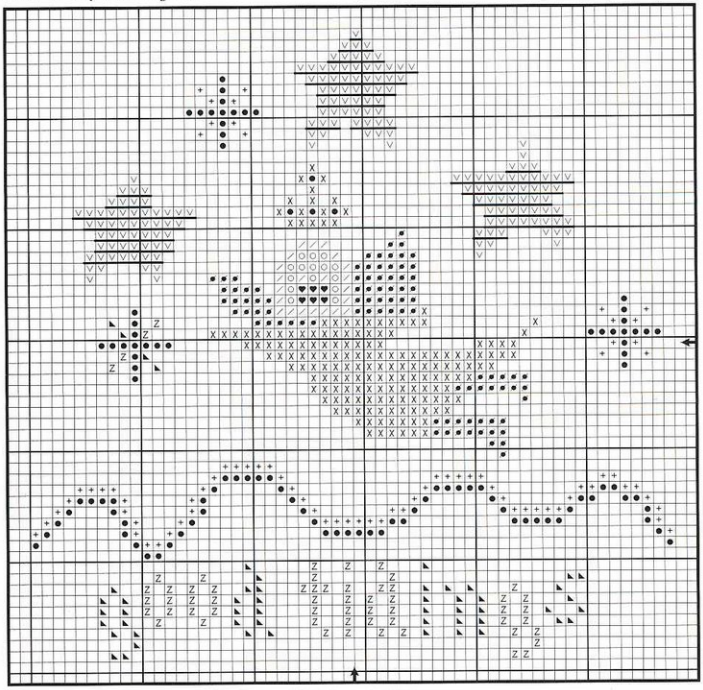


GOOD TIDINGS
(Photo is on page 28.)

REINDEER ON THE ROOF

Designed by Mary Garry of Mary Garry's Sewing Cabin

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
■	310	8403	403	black
◟	535	8400	273	ash gray, vy. lt.
◑	3021	5395	273	brown-gray, dk.
	632	5936	936	coffee brown, dk.
	520	6318	862	fern green, dk.

DMCFT

▽	ecru	ecru

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads

○	0120	Pine
+	1110	Sable
	0320	Mulberry
	0150	Evergreen

Fabric: 32-count Tumbleweed from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 70H x 70W
Design size: 4⅜" x 4⅜"

Mary Garry's Sewing Cabin

Mary Garry

Reindeer on the Roof

The old sewing cabin, a sewing box made out of willow in the shape of a log cabin, was the home of the patterns and papers of Miss Mary Moss. She was the founder of a sewing school in the North Woods and an "Instructress and Practitioner of Needle Courtesy." Miss Moss encouraged all her friends and students to keep their needles safely in a pincushion! Tucked in the corner of the old sewing cabin was an antique sampler motif of a reindeer.

Seeing this reindeer made me recall a Christmas long ago; and, as it turned out, it was the happiest of childhood Christmas memories. Mom, Dad, Granny, Grandpa, Uncle Joe, Uncle Ray, and his lady friend, Irene (of "Good-Night Irene" fame) were spending Christmas Eve at our house. I was six-years old. After supper, we gathered around the Christmas tree. Suddenly, the lights went out! There were loud noises on the roof.

"Could that be Santa and his reindeer?" someone exclaimed.

As I sat on Irene's lap, filled with fright and excitement, I knew, YES, it was the reindeer on the roof! Just as suddenly, the lights went back on; and the room was filled with a glow of Christmas spirit. There were presents under the tree, including a pair of Dale Evans cowgirl boots. The cookies and carrots we had put out for Santa and his reindeer had been eaten—only crumbs remained. I remember that Christmas as if it were yesterday.

Miss Moss might have cross-stitched this ornament of reindeer flying over her cottage as a gift and pincushion for her friends in the Potter's Embroidery Club—North Woods Chapter. Merry Christmas and remember Miss Moss's motto: "She who sews with courtesy reaps friendship, and she who sews with kindness finds love."

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand DMC Flower Thread (DMCFT). Backstitch using two strands of floss. Cross stitch where X appears, using one strand 632/5936/936 and one strand 0320 Mulberry. Cross stitch where ♥ appears, using one strand 520/6318/862 and one strand 0150 Evergreen.

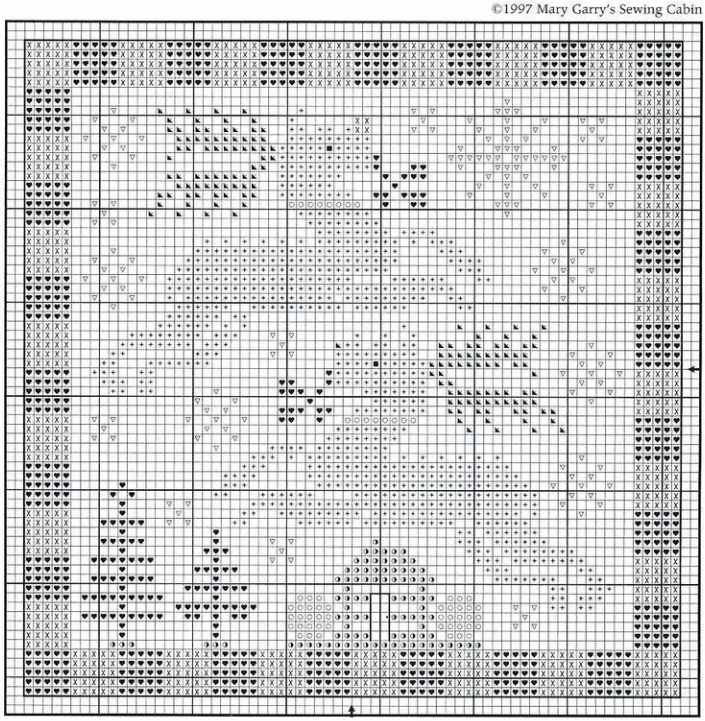
Backstitch instructions:

3021 5395 273	door
0120 Pine	border

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Piping and bias hanger were made using backing fabric.

Finished by Edie Weilemann

©1997 Mary Garry's Sewing Cabin



REINDEER ON THE ROOF
(Photo is on page 26.)

Mosey 'N Me

Judy and Frank Bielec

Melt-Away Butter Cookies

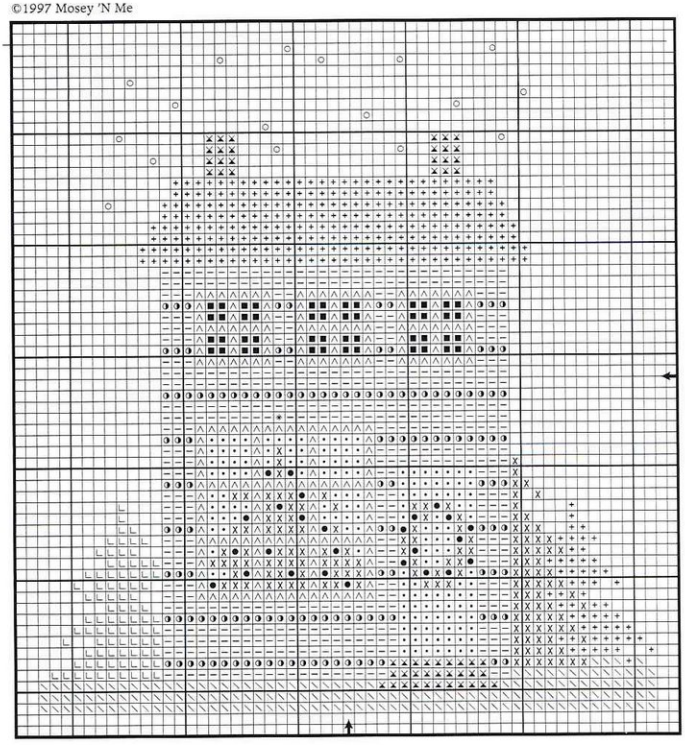
1¼ cups butter, softened
¾ cup sifted powdered sugar
2½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon almond extract
½ teaspoon vanilla extract
A few drops of food coloring (optional)

Cream butter, gradually add sugar, beating at medium speed with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Add flour, and mix well. Stir in flavorings and food coloring, if desired.

Use cookie gun to shape dough as desired, following manufacturer's instructions. Shoot cookies onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake at 325° for 15 minutes. Cool on wire racks. Store in air-tight containers.

Yield: about 7 dozen (2" diameter) cookies

©1997 Mosey 'N Me



HOME FOR CHRISTMAS
(Photo is on page 22.)

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Designed by Judy and Frank Bielec of Mosey 'N Me

Anchor®	DMC	
∧ 2	5200	snow white
⧗ 20	816	garnet
∟ 210	562	jade, med.
X 212	561	jade, vy. dk.
■ 401	413	pewter gray, dk.
+ 860	522	fern green
◑ 926	712	cream
– 936	632	coffee brown, dk.
• 942	738	tan, vy. lt.

Marlitt	DMC Rayon Floss	
\ 800	35200	snow white

By Jupiter Charms

* 8041	star

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

○ 00161	crystal
● 62013	frosted red red

Fabric: 32-count Royal Blue linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 59H x 55 W
Design size: 3¾" x 3½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Attach 00161 beads, using a cross stitch and one strand of floss to match fabric. Attach 62013 beads, using a cross stitch and one strand 212/561.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording hanger was made using 123/792. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 95.

Needle Maid® Designs, Inc.

Martha Schmidt

Christmas has always been a very special time for our entire family, with my parents, my two sisters, my brother, and my husband, Fred, and I, along with all our husbands, wives, children, and now grandchildren gathering together for a family reunion dinner on Christmas Eve. The group has grown to over forty people as the tradition continues to this day.

The most memorable year was 1963 because my first child, David, had been born on Thanksgiving Day; and he was introduced to the entire clan on Christmas Eve. Because of all of the commotion, he cried and cried loudly; and all of my efforts to comfort him failed. Finally, my father, who has since passed away, stretched out on his back on the living room carpet, placing David face down on his stomach while patting his back. The patting and my father's heartbeat soothed David; and he fell asleep, trapping my father on the floor for most of the evening.

It was also on that night that my father gave me a beautiful Santa bank into which I was supposed to save coins for my first child's education. That was the beginning of my extensive Santa collection, the inspiration for my ethnic Santa designs. There are now nine of these designs with many more to come.

OLD SAINT NICK
Designed by Martha Schmidt
of Needle Maid® Designs, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
∧	white	1001	01	white (two strands)
S	762	8510	397	pearl gray, vy. lt.
X	321	3500	47	red (two strands)
+	356	2975	9575	terra-cotta, med.
●	816	3410	20	garnet
•	754	3146	6	peach flesh, lt.
U	758	3868	868	terra-cotta, lt.
3	3772	5579	379	flesh, dk.
◤	3799	8999	236	pewter gray, dk. (two strands)
bs	415	8398	398	pearl gray

	DMC Rayon Floss	Marlitt	
○	35200	800	snow white
\	30762	845	pearl gray, vy. lt.
M	30415	870	pearl gray

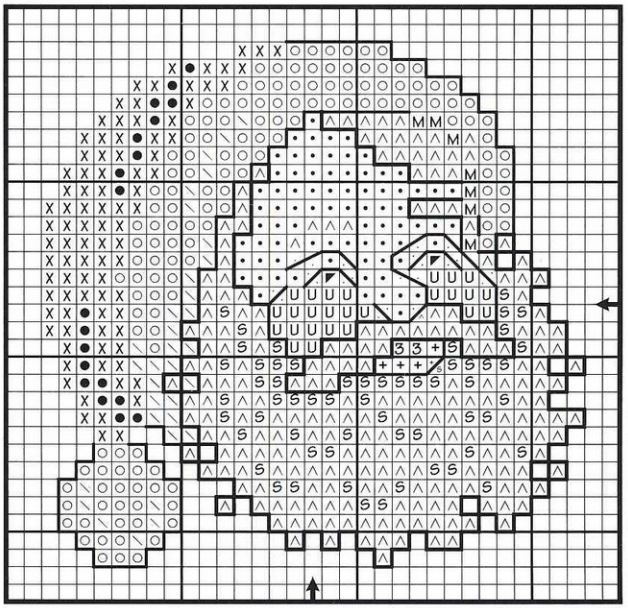
Fabric: 18-count antique white Aida
Stitch count: 30H x 31W
Design size: 1⅔" x 1¾"

Instructions: Cross stitch using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated. Backstitch using one strand of floss.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

30145		800	fur on hat
3799	8999	236	eyes
356	2975	9575	lip
415	8398	398	hair, mustache, beard, eyebrows
816	3410	20	hat area around face
3772	5579	379	face

Finishing instructions:
After stitching is complete, cut cross-stitch fabric into a 3" circle, making certain that stitching is centered. Notch or clip edge to remove excess fabric. Cut and notch another 3" circle from red fabric. Use a 2½" circle as a pattern to cut out white felt and cardboard. Place felt at back of stitched piece, fold Aida back over felt circle all the way around and hand baste two fabrics together. Now place red fabric against cardboard and fold back edges of fabric to back of cardboard. Use white glue or glue gun to glue edge of fabric at back. Place two finished circles back to back and, using red sewing thread, whip stitch together. Remove basting stitches from Aida. Twisted-cording trim was made using DMC 699. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.



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OLD SAINT NICK
(Photo is on page 20.)

The Needle's Prayse

Darlene O'Steen

Traditions are very important to our family at Christmas, starting with the decorating of five Christmas trees to the reading of *The Littlest Angel* on Christmas Eve. My husband's job is to put on the tree lights, and I decorate the trees. With five trees to decorate, hundreds of ornaments must be unpacked and each given their moment of remembering when they were purchased and for what occasion. Next, we enjoy setting up village scenes with the 160 Department 56 houses we have collected over the years. The light over the crèche, and the lights on top of our trees are never lit until Christmas Eve.

We start decorating in October and leave the tree in the kitchen up all year long—we just love Christmas! Our decorating is always completed by the first of December so we can enjoy having our friends and family over and remember the reason for the season.

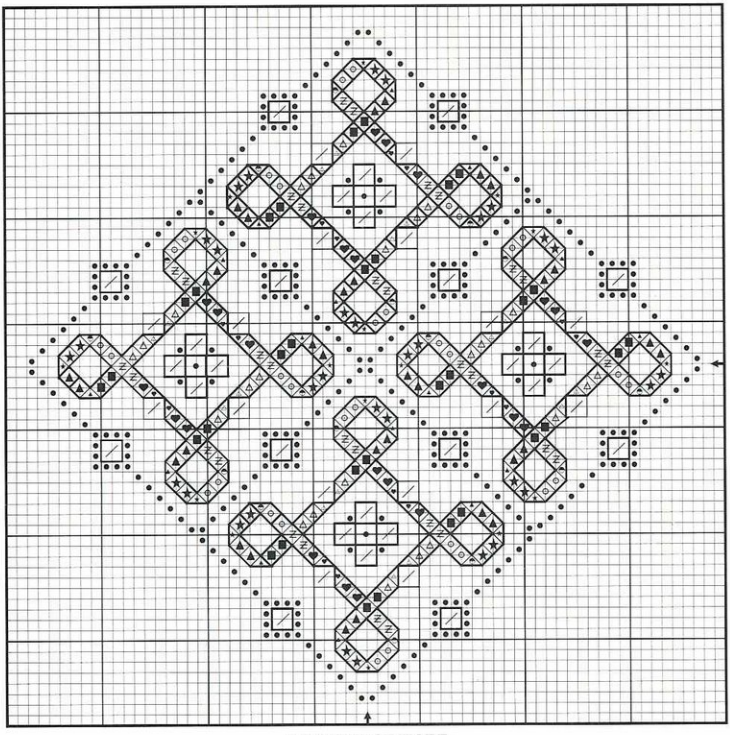
This past Christmas it was a little more difficult to complete all the things we enjoy. I was diagnosed with breast cancer in November 1996 and had a mastectomy two weeks before Christmas. I have now completed my treatment for breast cancer and have a renewed enjoyment of life. I look forward to decorating for this Christmas and have designed this ornament in celebration of life and hope for others who have also battled and who are now fighting breast cancer. The pink ribbon is the symbol for breast cancer awareness. This ornament contains sixteen ribbons to remind us that the fight against breast cancer is an ongoing battle for each woman and her loved ones.

RIBBONS OF HOPE
Designed by Darlene O'Steen
of The Needle's Prayse

Kreinik Soie d'Alger	DMC	
● 1835	320	pistachio, med.
△ 1011	225	pink, ul. pl.
■ 1012	3713	pink, vy. lt.
▲ 1013	761	pink, lt.
★ 2931	761	pink, med.
○ 2932	760	pink
≠ 2933	899	pink, dk.
♥ 3014	335	pink, vy. dk.

Kreinik #4 Very Fine Braid

/ 102		Vatican gold



RIBBONS OF HOPE
(Photo is on page 18.)

Fabric: 32-count antique white Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 64H x 64W
Design size: 4" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using one strand of floss. Work Algerian-eye stitch over four threads where □ appears in center of each motif, using one strand 1835/320. Work rice stitch over four threads where □ appears, using one strand of very fine braid. Work queen stitch where ◊ appears, using one strand of floss. Work partial queen stitch where partial ◊ appears, using one strand of floss. Backstitch ribbons, using one strand of very fine braid. **NOTE:** Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to diagonal pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording hanger was made using 2932/760 and very fine braid. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 95.

Stitched by April Taylor

©1997 The Needle's Prayse

The Needle's Work

Dawn Lewis

A very special Christmas memory of mine occurred about ten years ago, when my two daughters were ages four and six. I had taken them to our local mall to do their own Christmas shopping. A local charity had set up a temporary shop for children to buy presents for their parents, with the proceeds going to the charity. Only children were allowed to enter the shop, so I waited outside while Amanda and Melissa went in to shop. They were both very excited to be choosing their own presents for Mommy and Daddy.

When they emerged a while later, each carrying two gift-wrapped packages, Melissa was very pleased with the gift she had chosen for me. She was so excited that she could hardly stand it. For days she talked about nothing else. She insisted that she had bought me the most wonderful Christmas gift in the world.

"Mommy, you're going to love my present better than any present you've ever had!" she told me. And, of course, I knew that I would.

I though that it was something for cross stitch. I couldn't have been further from the truth.

We always have a very magical Christmas Eve filled with family, presents, and a visit from Santa Claus. When Santa arrived to pass out our family gifts, both Amanda and Melissa were every bit as thrilled as you might expect. They began to help him to pass out the gifts.

But, when Melissa found her gift for me under the tree, she did not allow Santa to pass out that one. "This one is for my Mommy!" she said, literally jumping up and down, "and it's from ME!" As she brought the gift over to me she looked as if she were about to explode with excitement. I really could not wait to open my gift.

It was truly the most amazing gift I have ever received. And she was absolutely correct. I have never received another gift that I will treasure as much as this one.

It was a purple pig plaque. At least, that is the best name I have been able to give it. It is a heart-shaped piece of wood that has been painted purple. In the center, a large pig is mounted with a burgandy polka-dot bow above him. In her four-year-old eyes, it was the most wonderful gift in the world.

I'm not sure which of the two of us was more thrilled when I opened it, she or I. Over the years, she has forgotten all about her excitement when she gave it to me; but I never will. I will always treasure and remember the moment when my child gave me the most beautiful purple pig plaque in the world.

CHRISTMAS MEMORY ORNAMENT
Designed by Dawn Lewis
of The Needle's Work

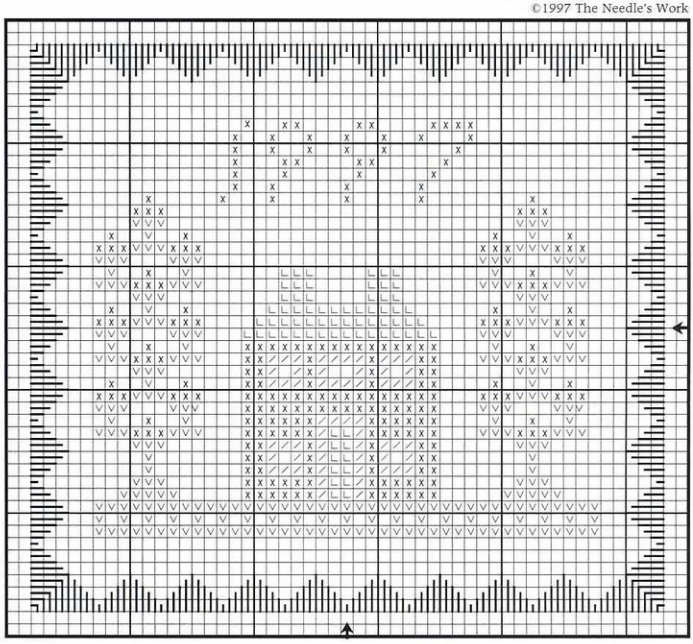
	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
/	white	1001	01	white
v	500	6880	879	blue-green, vy. dk.
X	902	3083	897	garnet, vy. dk.
L	3799	8999	236	pewter gray, vy. dk.

Fabric: 32-count cream Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 46H x 51W
Design size: 2⅞" x 3¼"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work satin stitch for sawtooth border, using two strands white/1001/01.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using 500/6880/879 and 902/3083/897. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 95.

©1997 The Needle's Work



CHRISTMAS MEMORY ORNAMENT
(Photo is on page 12.)

Needlecrafts Unlimited Co.

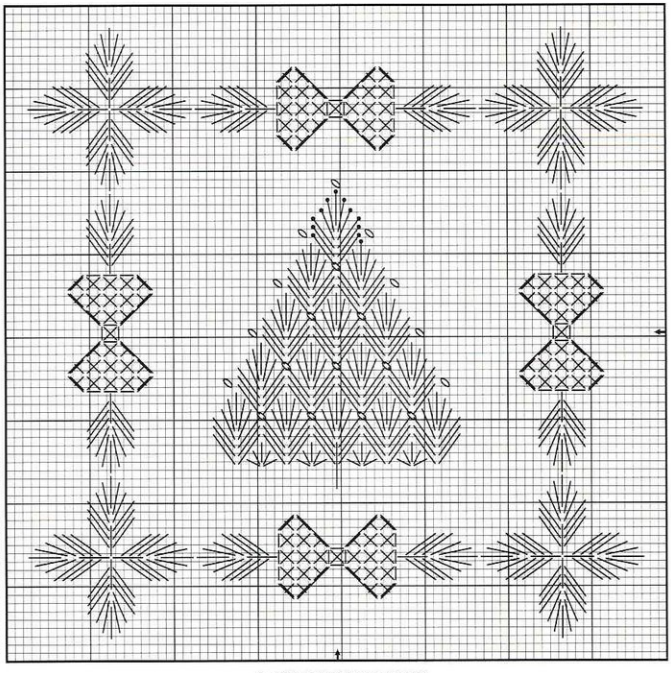
Linda Driskell

This delicious salad is a favorite at Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners in our home. It is wonderful with baked turkey or chicken. I hope you will enjoy it with your favorite dishes at holiday time.

Fresh Cranberry Salad

1 large box raspberry jello
2 envelopes plain gelatin
2 oranges
1 cup sugar
1 box fresh cranberries
1 small can crushed pineapple, drained
1½ cups hot water
½ cup cold water
1 cup chopped pecans

Grind oranges and cranberries. Mix with sugar, pineapple, and pecans. Set aside. Dissolve jello in 1 cup hot water; dissolve gelatin in ½ cup hot water. Mix jello and gelatin. Put in refrigerator until it begins to congeal; blend all ingredients together. Pour into mold. Return to refrigerator until completely congealed.



©1997 Needlecrafts Unlimited Co.

A CHRISTMAS TREE
(Photo is on page 24.)

A CHRISTMAS TREE
Designed by Linda Driskell
of Needlecrafts Unlimited Co.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
X	817	2335	19	coral red, vy. dk.
bs	905	6267	239	parrot green, dk.
bs	815	3000	22	garnet, med.

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

O	00165	Christmas red

Fabric: 20-count white Valarie from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 73H x 73W
Design size: 3⅔" x 3⅔"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using three strands of floss. Backstitch using three strands of floss. Work leaf stitch for tree and greenery, using three strands 905/6267/239. Attach beads, using two strands 817/2335/19. **NOTE:** Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

815	3000	22	bows
905	6267	239	remainder of backstitching

Finishing instructions:
Refer to diagonal pillow-ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Hanger was made using three strands 905/6267/239.

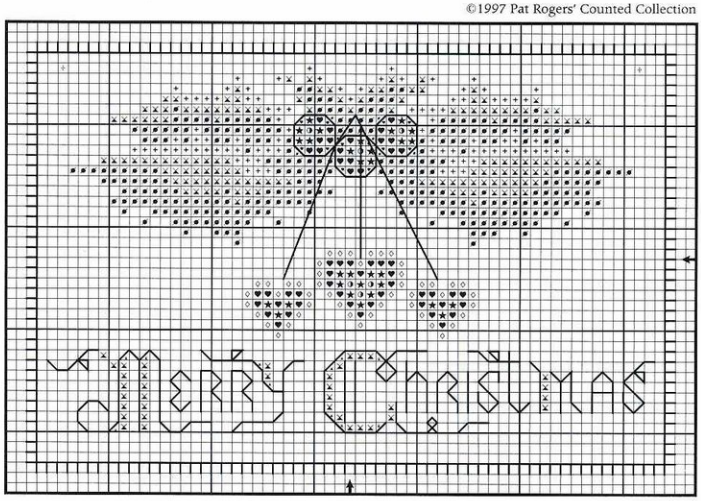
NOTE: Grid of chart represents actual threads of fabric.

Pat Rogers' Counted Collection

Pat Rogers

One of the benefits of getting older is the unpleasant memories fade and the good memories, like wine, seem to sweeten with age. My first Christmas as a naval officer's wife and as a wife did not hold much promise to be a happy event. Larry was at sea. His ship was brought out of moth balls because of the escalation of the Vietnam War. We had moved to Norfolk, Virginia, only a few weeks before he shipped out. As Christmas loomed nearer, I was preparing myself to spend it alone. This was so unlike the atmosphere I was use to at Christmas, when our house became the grand central station of happy relatives dropping by to share in the Christmas spirit. Although I was teaching, I really didn't know anyone at my school very well since I had started late in the term. I had met a few of the other officers' wives, but they were all going home to their families. As I braced myself for my home-alone Christmas, it began. My phone started ringing with invitations from people I hardly knew to share Christmas with them. So many invitations I could not accept them all. The memory of that Christmas reminds me always that Christmas is sharing. And yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

©1997 Pat Rogers' Counted Collection



HOLLY & HEARTS

(Photo is on page 12.)

HOLLY & HEARTS
Designed by Pat Rogers
of Pat Rogers' Counted Collection

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
◑	304	3401	19	red, med.
♥	498	3410	43	red, dk.
◪	500	6880	879	blue-green, vy. dk.
⧗	501	6878	878	blue-green, dk.
+	502	6876	877	blue-green
★	815	3000	22	garnet, med.

Kreinik 1/16" Ribbon

◊	002	gold

Fabric: 27-count unbleached Danish linen from Danish Needlework
Stitch count: 40H x 63W
Design size: 3" x 4⅔"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss or one strand of 1/16" ribbon. Backstitch using two strands of floss. Work long stitch for heart stems, using one strand of 1/16" ribbon. **NOTE:** Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

Backstitch instructions:

500	6880	879	lettering
498	3410	43	berries

Finishing instructions:
Work nun's stitch where indicated on chart, using one strand DMC 642 #8 coton perlé. Cover back of stitched piece, using backing fabric and fusible web. Trim fabric even with nun's stitch. Make bow, using 1/16" ribbon, and attach at top of long stitches. Attach 1/16" ribbon for hanger where ✣ appears on chart, knotting each end.

Pegasus Originals, Inc.

Stephanie Seabrook Hedgepath

Every year at Christmastime, my mother would host a party for the extended family at our home. This was a major undertaking as it was mostly for my father's side of the family–and there were a lot of Seabrooks! We would decorate the house with fresh smilax and pine and holly that Dad had gathered from the woods. Of course, there would be mistletoe, too! The good silver would come out and be polished, the big punch bowl would come down from the attic, and the crystal and silver serving trays would be polished until they sparkled. The house would look so festive and smell so great. Then Mom would make some of her special Christmas recipes–Zippy Dip, Bennie Seed Cookies, Chinese Chews, Sandies, and best of all, Mom's tarts. The hard part would be keeping me and my big brother, Tate, out of the goodies the days before the party! Christmas Eve would finally arrive and all my aunts and uncles and multitudinous cousins would come up the front steps and the merriment would begin. We enjoyed each other's company–Christmas was just one of the times the clan would gather; but it was extra special to me because at Christmastime, they'd all come to my house!

One of my very favorite recipes that would always make an appearance at Christmas was my mother's "tarts," which I share with you along with my Christmas memories. I hope you try them–they really are simple to make.

Dorothy Seabrook's Christmas Tarts

Shell:

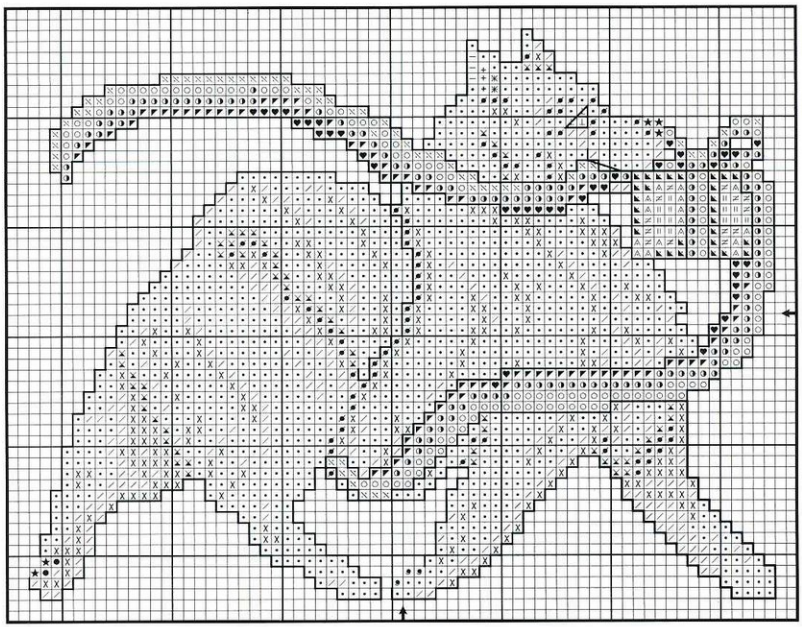
8-ounce package cream cheese
1 stick of butter
1 cup flour

Mix cream cheese, butter, and flour together. Chill dough for a couple of hours. Flour a cutting board and your hands. Roll out a handful of the dough at a time to 1/8" thickness. Sprinkle more flour, if needed, to handle the dough. Cut in circles to fit mini-muffin tin or tart tin. Press dough into tin. The tart shell should not reach to the top of the tin. Bake at 350° for 10–15 minutes. Tart shells can be stored, stacked one in another in an airtight container.

Filling:

1 stick of butter
1 cup sugar
2 egg yolks
1 cup pecans, coarsely chopped
1 cup raisins (Wash and soak for 5 minutes in boiling water to plump.)
2 egg whites, beaten
Powdered sugar

Melt butter, add sugar, stirring until dissolved. Add two egg yolks, pecans, and raisins. Cook on low, stirring until well mixed. Fold in beaten egg whites. Allow mixture to cool somewhat. Place baked tart shells on cookie sheet lined with paper towels. Fill tart shells with mixture. Let cool. Sprinkle with powdered sugar before serving.



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CHRISTMAS HELPER

(Photo is on page 29.)

CHRISTMAS HELPER
Designed by Stephanie Seabrook Hedgepath of Pegasus Originals, Inc.

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	white	1001	01	white
+	223	3241	895	pink, med.
–	224	3240	894	pink, lt.
◑	304	3401	19	red, med.
★	310	8403	403	black
▼	317	8512	400	pewter gray
◪	318	8511	399	steel gray, lt.
○	321	3500	47	red
●	413	8514	236	pewter gray, dk.
⧗	414	8513	235	steel gray, dk.
X	415	8398	398	pearl gray
◤	498	3410	43	red, dk.
※	666	3046	46	red, bt.
◚	699	6228	923	green
▲	700	6227	228	green, bt.
≠	701	6226	227	green, lt.
‖	702	6239	239	kelly green
⁄	762	8510	397	pearl gray, vy. lt.
♥	814	3044	44	garnet, dk.
⊥	898	5476	360	coffee brown, vy. dk.
✳	3722	3242	896	pink, med. dk.
●	3799	8999	236	pewter gray, dk.
bs	801	5475	353	coffee, dk.

Fabric: 14-count aqua Yorkshire Aida from Zweigart®

Stitch count: 52H x 68W
Design size: 3¾" x 4⅞"
Instructions: Cross stitch using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

310	8403	403	mouth, eye
414	8513	235	dog's body
801	5475	353	ribbon
3799	8999	236	package

Finishing instructions:
Mount in round, wooden frame or finish as pillow-style ornament, referring to instructions on page 94.

THE PRAIRIE SCHOOLER

Pamela Byrd Brunke and Nancy Wallerstein

Christmas Morning Muffins

¼ cup butter, melted and cooled slightly
½ cup milk
2 eggs
½ teaspoon vanilla
1 cup flour
1 cup whole wheat flour
½ cup sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon cinnamon
1½–2 cups frozen blueberries

Preheat oven to 425°. Mix in order butter, milk, eggs, and vanilla; then add dry ingredients. Do not thaw blueberries. Shake off excess ice crystals and add a large spoonful of dry ingredients to the blueberries before adding to mixture. Stir together wet and dry ingredients. Add blueberries. Grease the top and cups of muffin tin. Spoon batter into cups and, if desired, add a sprinkle of sugar to the tops. Bake 15 minutes at 425°.
Yield: 12 large muffins

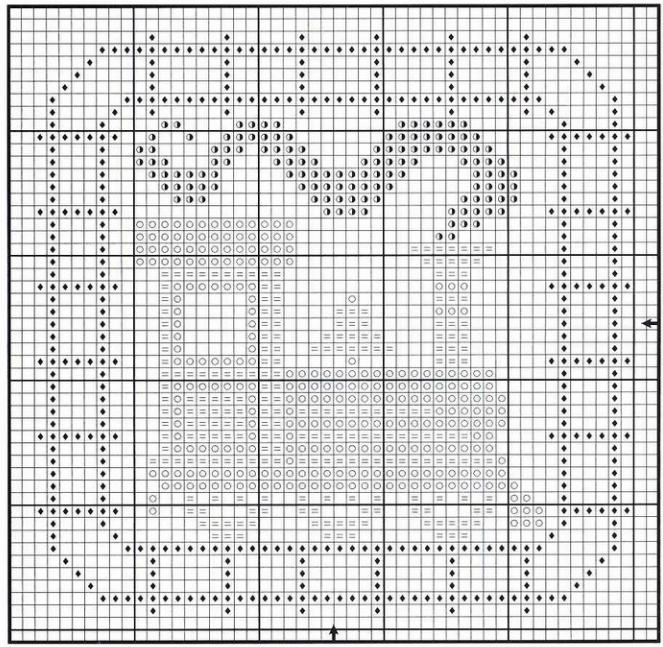
TRAIN
Designed by Pamela Byrd Brunke of The Prairie Schooler

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
◑	422	5372	942	hazelnut, lt.
○	520	6318	862	fern green, dk.
◆	844	8501	382	beaver gray, ul. dk.
=	918	3340	341	copper, dk.

Fabric: 32-count bay leaf Jobelan from Wichelt Imports, Inc.

Stitch count: 47H x 48W
Design size: 3" x 3"
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Bias trim was made using backing fabric.



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TRAIN
(Photo is on page 16.)

The Sampler House

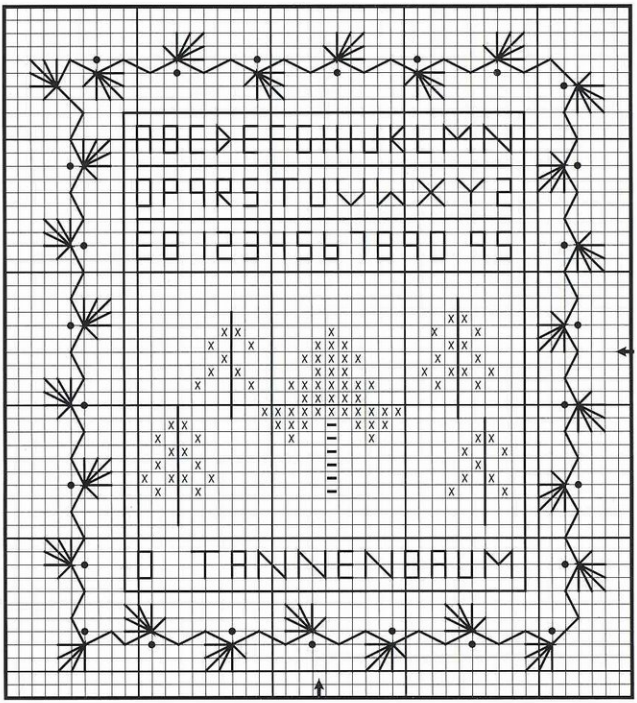
Eileen J. Bennett

Cranberry Salad

This has been a Bennett "family favorite" holiday salad since I first prepared it for a Thanksgiving dinner in 1972. This is a beautiful looking salad so serve it in a clear bowl or compote dish.

2 cups fresh cranberries, ground or chopped very finely
2 cups miniature marshmallows
¾ cup sugar
2 cups diced apples, unpeeled
½ cup walnuts or pecans, chopped
¾ cup green grapes, pitted and chopped
½ pint whipping cream, whipped

Mix first three ingredients together and refrigerate for 12 hours or overnight. Add remaining ingredients to cranberry mixture; mix. Chill well before serving.



©1995 The Sampler House

O TANNENBAUM
(Photo is on page 24.)

O TANNENBAUM
Designed by Eileen J. Bennett
of The Sampler House

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
X	937	6268	268	avocado, med.
–	898	5476	360	coffee brown, vy. dk.
bs	935	6270	861	avocado, vy. dk.
Fk	221	3242	897	pink, vy. dk.

Fabric: 32-count antique white Belfast® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 48H x 43W
Design size: 1½" x 1⅜"

Instructions: Cross stitch over one thread, using one strand of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. Work French knot (Fk) where • appears, using one strand 221/4303/342 and wrapping floss around needle once.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

935	6270	861	outer border
937	6268	268	"O Tannenbaum"
898	5476	360	inner border, small tree trunks
221	4303	342	alphabet, lines between alphabet

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using 221/4303/342 and 935/6270/861. Twisted-cording instructions appear on page 95.

The Scarlet Thread

Linda Gordanier Jary

There is a point in the lives of children when they ask if there "really is a Santa Claus;" and when my son and daughter put forth the query, I felt sure that an honest answer would diminish some of the wonder in the little faces and that sparkle of anticipation in their eyes. My policy, however, was to tell them the truth, always. I reasoned that, if I told them that someone they did not see brought toys and filled their stockings really existed and they later found that I had deceived them, then how could they believe me when I told them that One they could not see came to bring the gift of eternal life? Prepared for a reaction full of disappointment, I answered my daughter of seven and my son of five, "No, there really is no Santa Claus, but do not tell your friends, for some of them still believe that he comes down the chimney with a pack of toys. Let them ask their mothers and fathers, but don't you tell!"

"Who, then, Mother," they asked, "puts all those things under the tree and fills our stockings and who reads our letters to know what we have wanted to find Christmas morning?"

Before I could answer them my daughter had figured it out.

"It's you!" she exclaimed, and rushed toward me as I nodded my head in acknowledgement. What happened next caught me totally by surprise and gave me, I realize in retrospect, the purest kind of approval and approbation for adhering to my policy of truth. Both of my little ones covered me with hugs and kisses as they repeated dozens of times "Thank you. Thank you, Mother, thank you!"

"You are not disappointed or unhappy?" I asked, once I regained my composure.

Their reply in the negative was qualified by their delight that the goodies and gifts were from someone they knew and loved and to whom they could say thank you; someone who could see them play with their games and ride their bikes and enjoy the chocolate treats. That day twenty years ago, not long before the supposed arrival time of the jolly old elf, when my children exhibited their understanding that loving the giver surpasses any love of a gift, will forever be my greatest Christmas memory.

STITCHER'S TREE
Designed by Linda Gordanier Jary of The Scarlet Thread

Kreinik 1/16" Ribbon

0	002	gold
0	008	green

Kreinik Blending Filament

X	008	green

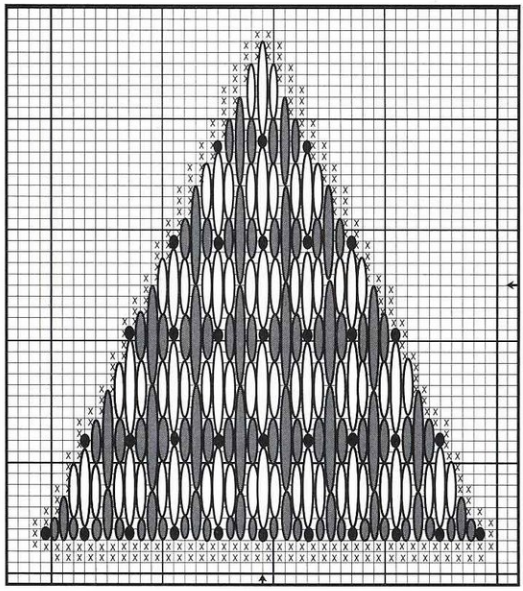
Mill Hill Antique Glass Beads

•	03049	rich red

Fabric: 16-count white Aida from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 47H x 42W
Design size: 3" x 2 5/8"

Instructions: Cross stitch using two strands of blending filament. Work satin stitch, using one strand 1/16" ribbon. Attach beads, using one strand of matching floss.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Add an emery strawberry as a trunk. Attach a Funtastics (by Streamline) star-shaped 11/18" gold button to top of tree, using a ball-head straight pin and glue. Hanger was made using 003 Kreinik 1/16" Ribbon. Attach Creative Beginnings scissors charm to emery.



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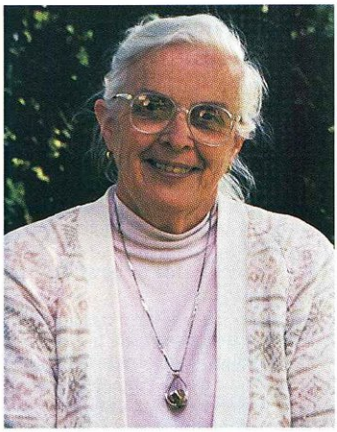
STITCHER'S TREE
(Photo is on page 24.)

Schoolroom Samplings

Marjorie Philippe

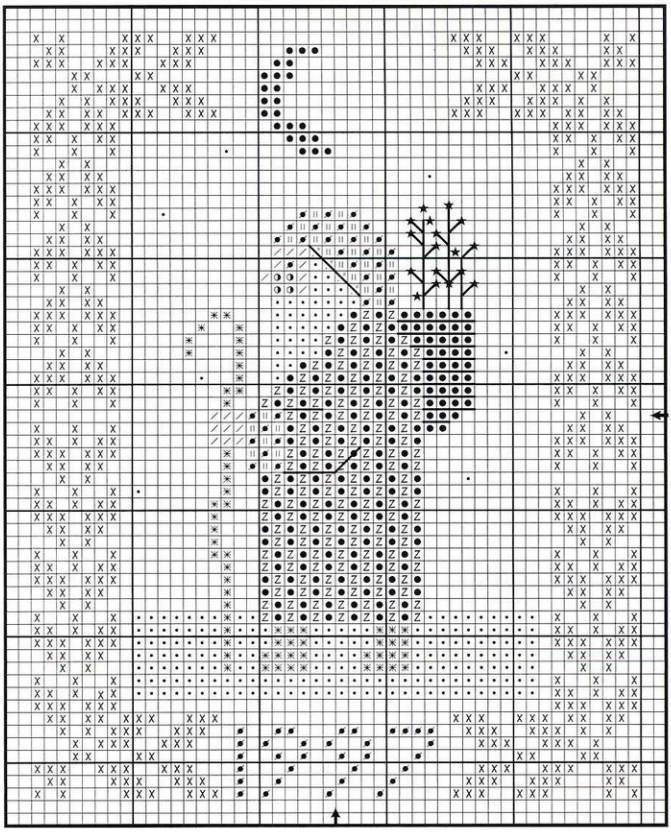


These cookies have been enjoyed yearly by all the partners of Schoolroom Samplings (Marjorie Philippe, Susan Herrigel, Judie Sickley, Barbara Kelly, and Barbara Bacon). Susan and her husband, Hunt, supply the group with a sampling of about seven varieties of cookies each Christmas. This recipe is from Susan's kitchen.

Pecan Crisps

1 cup butter
¼ cup sugar
2 teaspoons vanilla
¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup crushed pecans
2¼ cups flour
Confectioner's sugar

Cream butter; add sugar. Add vanilla, pecans, and salt. Sift in flour. Dough will be stiff. Roll in palm of hand to form small balls or crescent shapes. Bake on greased cookie sheet for about 20 minutes at 350°. Roll in confectioner's sugar when cool. Store covered in a cool place.
Yield: 4–5 dozen



©1997 Schoolroom Samplings

NUTMEG SANTA
(Photo is on page 20.)

NUTMEG SANTA
Designed by Marjorie Philippe of Schoolroom Samplings

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
⸗	3768	7052	779	gray-green, dark
X	3053	6315	860	green-gray
/	950	2336	376	flesh, lt.
◑	407	2337	883	flesh, dk.
Z	3772	5579	379	flesh, dk.
•	ecru	1002	387	ecru
✳	610	5889	889	drab brown, vy. dk.
●	613	5388	956	drab brown, lt.
‖	3033	5388	388	mocha, vy. lt.

Fabric: 28-count summer khaki Cashel® linen from Zweigart®

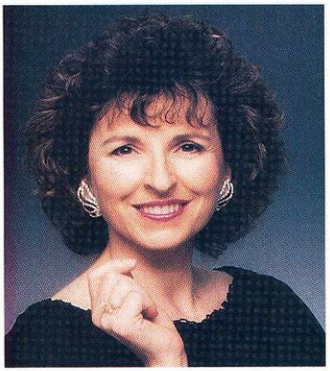
Stitch count: 61H x 48W
Design size: 4⅝" x 3⅝"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work French knot where ★ appears, using one strand 3772/579/379 and wrapping floss around needle once. Work double-running stitch for lines in basket (one strand), nutmeg stems (one strand), and outline of arm (two strands), using 610/5889/889. **NOTE:** Stitch illustrations begin on page 92.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using ecru #8 coton perlé. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

Serendipity Designs

Carolyn Meacham



Christmas is a feast for the heart and the senses. It commemorates the son who was God's gift of love, and it gives us a time to set aside other things and reach out to touch the people around us. It's the time when family and friends come together. It's a time of abundance and creativity, making gifts and decorations. It's the smell of tangerines and Christmas trees, the sounds of blessed music, the color of bright paper and glittering ornaments, and the tastes of favorite foods. The sights and smells and sounds that are part of my family's holiday traditions always bring with them warm feelings and memories. One of my favorite tastes of Christmas is my mother's applesauce cake, moist and rich with nuts and raisins and extremely easy to make.

Hester's Applesauce Cake

1 cup sugar
¼ pound softened butter
2 cups self-rising flour
1 cup applesauce
1 cup walnuts
1 cup raisins

Blend butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl. Beat in applesauce and then flour, mixing well. Add nuts and raisins and pour into greased and floured tube or bundt pan. Bake 40 minutes at 350°.

NATIVITY STOCKING
Designed by Carolyn Meacham
of Serendipity Designs

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	white	1001	01	white
X	318	8511	399	steel gray, lt.
*	350	3111	11	coral, med.
◑	351	3011	10	coral
◣	352	3008	9	coral, lt.
◟	353	3006	8	peach flesh
◬	415	8398	398	pearl gray
๏	434	5000	370	brown, lt.
♀	677	2410	886	old gold, vy. lt.
⁄	725	2298	305	topaz
⌓	726	2295	295	topaz, lt.
▲	727	2289	293	topaz, vy. lt.
Z	729	2875	874	old gold, med.
⊙	740	2099	316	tangerine
=	741	2314	314	tangerine, med.
∽	742	2303	303	tangerine, lt.
+	796	7100	133	royal blue, dk.
♥	801	5475	353	coffee, dk.
★	826	7180	161	blue, med.
∧	827	7159	9159	blue, vy. lt.
⁒	951	3335	933	flesh, vy. lt.
⊗	954	6020	203	Nile green
–	955	6030	206	Nile green, lt.
Fk	317	8512	400	pewter gray

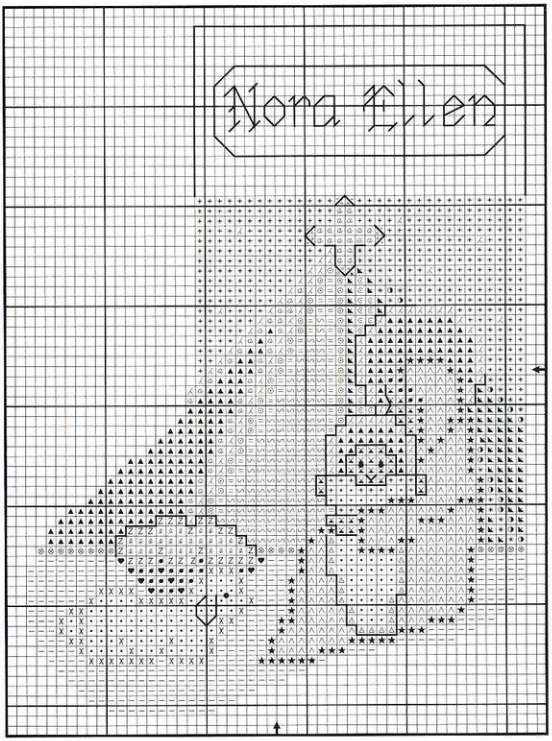
Fabric: 18-count white Aida
Stitch count: 69H x 50W
Design size: 3⅞" x 2⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch using two strands of floss. Work French knot (Fk) where • appears at intersecting grid lines, using one strand 317/8512/400 and wrapping floss around needle once. Backstitch using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated. **NOTE:** Use a favorite backstitch alphabet for personalization.

Backstitch instructions:

796	7100	133	top of stocking, name, name frame (two strands)
725	2298	305	top three points of star
317	8512	400	remainder of backstitching

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for stocking-finishing instructions. Twisted-cording trim was made using four strands each (six-ply) DMC 796 and DMC 797. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.



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NATIVITY STOCKING
(Photo is on page 14.)

Sheepish Designs

Dawn Bradford

Pecan Praline Cookies

Praline Topping:

1 cup chopped pecans
⅓ cup granulated sugar

Toast pecans on baking sheet in 350° oven for 8–10 minutes until toasted, not burned. Remove from oven and cool.

Combine ⅓ cup sugar with 2 tablespoons water in a small saucepan over medium heat. Bring to boil, stirring frequently to dissolve sugar. Cover and boil 2 minutes. Uncover and cook 2–2½ minutes longer, or until syrup thickens slightly, bubbles, and turns deep amber, but not dark brown. Immediately add toasted pecans to syrup, stirring to coat. Quickly turn praline mixture onto a buttered dish and cool completely.

Put praline mixture into plastic bag. Crack mixture into tiny pieces.

Cookie Dough:

1½ cups all-purpose flour
1¼ teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon salt
8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter, slightly salted
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 large egg
2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt; set aside.

In a medium bowl, beat butter until fluffy. Add sugars, egg, and vanilla and continue to beat until smooth and well blended. Add half of dry mixture and beat until blended. Stir in remaining dry mixture until well blended.

Set aside ⅓ cup praline mixture. Stir remaining mixture into cookie dough.

Form dough into 1" balls. Dip top of each ball into reserved praline. Space balls 2" apart on greased cookie sheets. Bake in center of preheated 350° oven, 10–11 minutes, or until cookies are slightly golden around edges. Remove from oven and let cool 2 minutes. Transfer to wire racks and cool completely.

Yield: 3 dozen cookies

PEACE ON EARTH

Designed by Dawn Bradford of Sheepish Designs

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads	
X 0330	Cherry Wine
I 0420	Gold Leaf
◆ 0410	Tarnished Gold (French knot)
■ 0720	Victorian Pink
• 0730	Cameo Pink
+ 0210	Blue Jay
= 0920	Tropical Ocean

DMC Metallic	
5282	gold

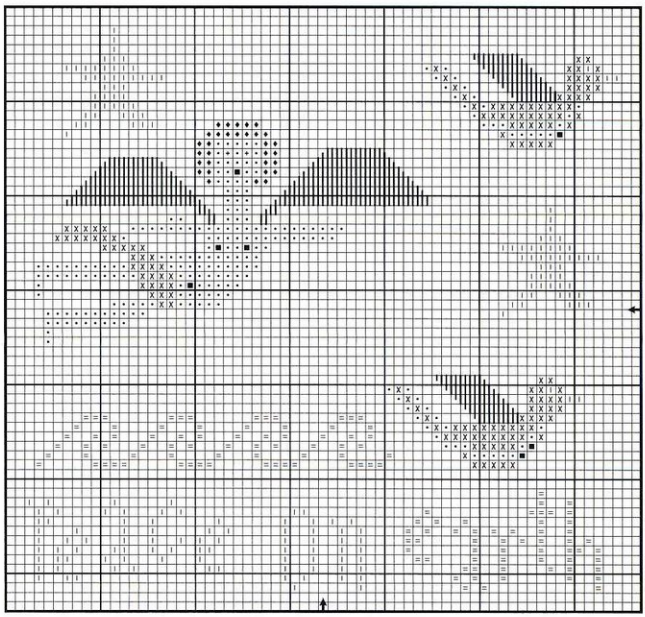
Fabric: 32-count Pansy linen from Green Mountain Hand Dyed Linens
Stitch count: 60H x 63W
Design size: 3¾" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work French knots for angel's hair, using two strands 0410 Tarnished Gold and wrapping floss around needle once. Work satin stitch , using two strands of floss. Using one 8"-length (six-ply) DMC 5282, work long stitch for collar of bird and bring remainder of metallic floss up next to collar, under hand, and out near hand for leash of bird. Cut metallic floss to desired length and knot end. Repeat for second bird.

Satin-stitch instructions:

0420 Gold Leaf	angel's wings
0730 Cameo Pink	birds' wings

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim and tassel were made using 0420 Gold Leaf. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions. Tassel-making how-tos appear on page 95.



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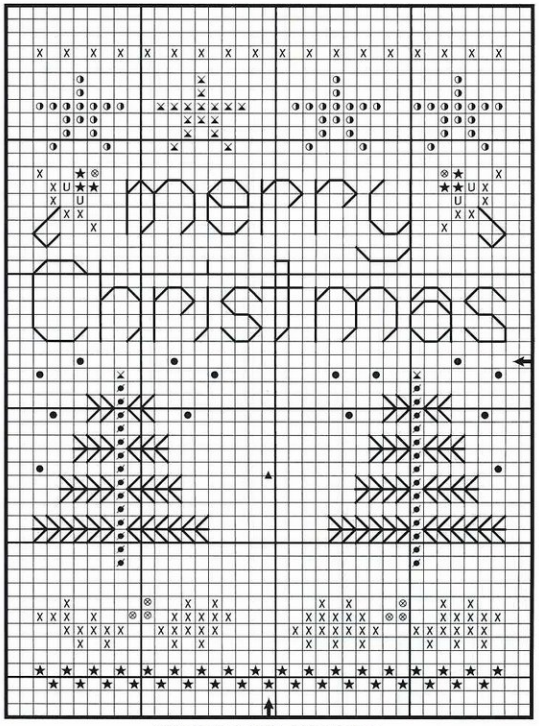
PEACE ON EARTH
(Photo is on page 14.)

Shepherd's Bush Printworks

Teri Richards



©1997 Shepherd's Bush Printworks

MERRY CHRISTMAS ROLL
(Photo is on page 18.)

It has always been our family's tradition to make an annual pilgrimage to the Christmas Park in downtown Ogden, Utah. It is decorated each year with thousands of lights and, of course, Santa's village. After a frosty walk in the December moonlight, we would all return home to a festive dinner of winter chili and hot cocoa. The first gift of the season, a shiny Christmas cracker, was given by my mother. Adults and children alike enjoyed the firecracker pop, the silly hats and jokes, and the prize that never hit the right sex–the boys always got rings and necklaces, and the girls usually received parachute people or puzzles.

The design for my ornament was created to look like an old-fashioned English Christmas cracker. May this stitched Christmas cracker bring joy and laughter to your holiday festivities.

MERRY CHRISTMAS ROLL
Designed by Teri Richards
of Shepherd's Bush Printworks

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads

U 0310	Claret
X 0150	Evergreen
• 1140	Oatmeal
◑ 0410	Tarnished Gold
★ 0240	Midnight
⸗ 1110	Sable

Mill Hill Glass Seed Beads

⊗ 02012	royal plum
⧗ 02011	Victorian gold

Shepherd's Bush Buttons

▲	Santa

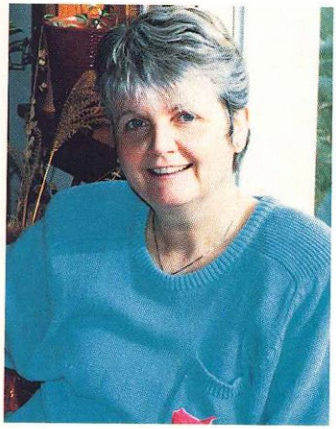
Fabric: 28-count natural linen
Stitch count: 49H x 35W
Design size: 3½" x 2½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss. Attach beads, using one strand of matching floss and a cross stitch. Attach button, using one strand 1140 Oatmeal.

Finishing instructions:
Count 24 threads beyond stitching at top. Completely withdraw the next three threads. This becomes your ribbon row. Count out 24 threads beyond pulled area and completely withdraw the next three threads. Make double-fold hem as follows: fold short end of fabric half way between the end and the outer withdrawn area. Fold again so first fold touches outer withdrawn area. Hemstitch, being sure to catch the fold. Repeat same steps for the other side. With right sides together, fold the stitching in half lengthwise and sew a ½" seam along the edge from end to end, approximately 1½" from stitching. Trim seam to ¼". Turn tube right-side out. Thread 18" length of ⅛"-wide burgandy ribbon through ribbon row. Pull tightly and knot. Tie ends in a bow. Use stuffing or batting to stuff the tube very tightly. Thread 18" length of ribbon in other ribbon row. Pull tightly and knot. Tie ends in a bow.

Sigrid Designs/ Thimb-Elena™

Sigrid Rode



I have had dogs all my life. My favorite breeds are Rottweilers, boxers, and bullmastiffs. For a long time, my dream was to own twenty of them. So it is no wonder that I love "101 Dalmatians." My wish, since childhood has been to be surrounded by a bunch of puppies.

One Christmas, my boxer had just died. I could not help but think that my husband had an awful lot of strange phone conversations. I started to wonder whether or not there was another woman in his life. We had just bought this beautiful old house and were having a great time decorating it. However, I could not understand my husband's taste. He insisted on putting hideous indoor-outdoor carpeting in one room, and it looked awful. We still had a lot of work ahead of us but, in the last few weeks, were concentrating on decorating for Christmas. We were putting the last trimmings on the tree when I thought that I had heard a puppy.

"Did you buy me a puppy?"

"No way, that's something everyone should pick out for themselves."

I would have sworn that I had heard that certain little sound that only a puppy makes. All of a sudden my husband urged me to come upstairs with him to that "ugly carpet" room.

"Why? What do you want?"

"Never mind. Let's go. You have to help me with something. It's a surprise for your mom."

" Oh, O.K."

When we got there, he insisted that I should wait for him in the room.

He would be right back. With that, he left and closed the door. Suddenly, the door flew open; and my husband came flying through, laughing and giggling, followed by what seem to be 100 Rottweiler puppies.

"Sit down and enjoy," he yelled.

It was hilarious—my dream come true—puppies everywhere with me in the middle. I rolled on the floor, getting kissed, scratched, bitten, and licked by 51 on-the-loose Rottweiler puppies in various sizes.

Then, out of the blue, my husband said "Pick three. You can keep three."

I was in heaven. All the strange phone calls had been with different breeders to get my dream set up. And the ugly carpeting was bought just for that night.

SNOWMAN STOCKING

Designed by Sigrid Rode
of Sigrid Designs/Thimb-Elena™

Anchor®	DMC	
v 400	317	pewter gray
X 44	814	garnet, dk.
○ 245	987	forest, dk.
. 01	white	white
■ 403	310	black
bs 903	3032	mocha, med.

Mill Hill Antique Glass Beads

• 03003	antique cranberry

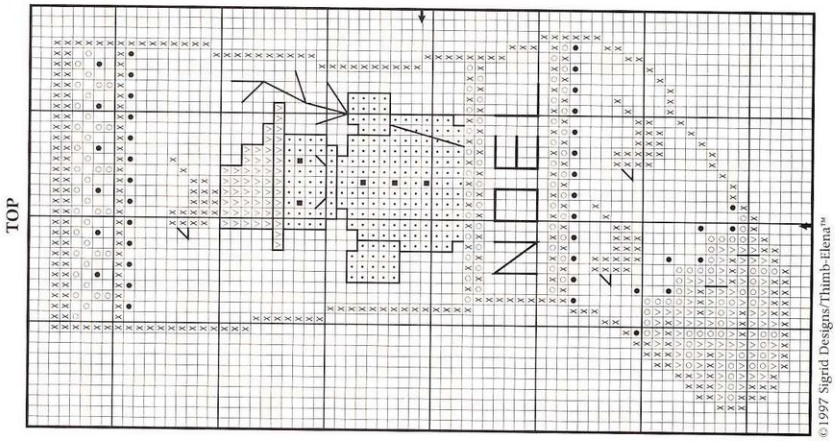
Fabric: 25-count black Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 70H x 35W
Design size: 5⅔" x 2⅞"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

403	310	snowman, hat
903	3032	twig

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for stocking-style ornament finishing instructions. Trim was purchased.



SNOWMAN STOCKING
(Photo is on page 26.)

Sue Hillis Designs

Sue Hillis

The tradition most enjoyed at our house during the Christmas holidays is decorating a tree for almost every room in the house! Over the years, these trees and their decorations have represented "home" to me and my family. My husband, John, was in the Army while our children were growing up; and oftentimes, though our family was together, our extended families were far away. So, we developed our own family traditions that evolved around our Christmas trees.

Each year we start just before Thanksgiving and put up the gingerbread tree in the kitchen. It is filled with cookie cutters, gingerbread people, baby's breath, tiny white lights, and red-checked gingham bows.

The next tree to go up is the Noah's ark tree in the dining room. This tree has lots of wooden animals and arks and gold-painted stars that glisten from the white lights. At the base of this tree is a collection of larger arks and animals. It's one of my favorite trees.

The tree in the living room has turn-of-the-century cornucopias, wooden blocks, tea-dyed flags, reproduction tin toys, and more of those white lights! At the base of the tree, we put an antique tricycle, old-looking teddy bears, a boy's old tool box, and other old toys and books I have collected.

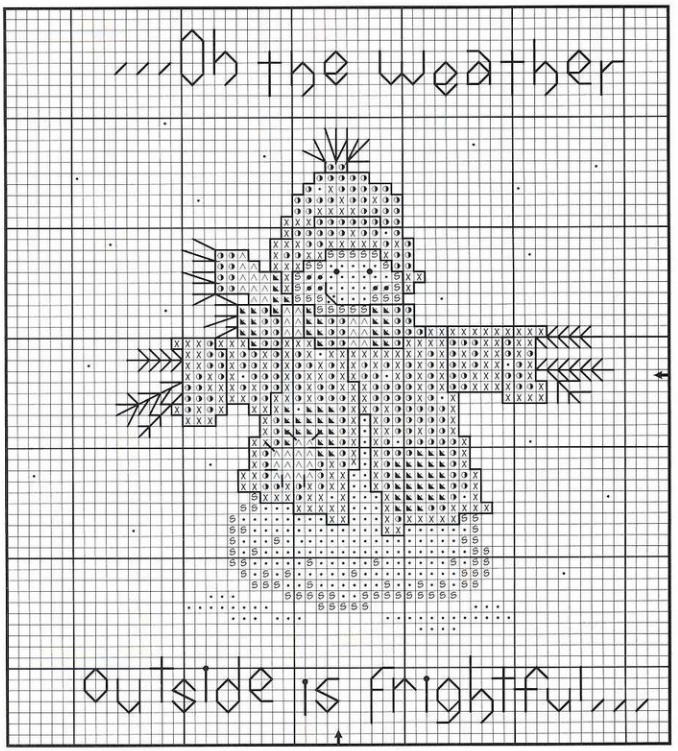
My studio has a tree that I pulled together quickly a number of years ago just before an open house we were hosting: it has embroidery floss hanging from it—some on bobbins, and some just the way it's purchased! I've added wooden scissors and some old wooden thread spools that I've wound floss around. Tomato-shaped pincushions are sitting on some of the branches.

One guest room is decorated with old quilts. That tree has lots of tiny teddy bears nestled among the branches and paper ornaments of more teddy bears.

Another guest room is decorated with white linens on a brass and iron bed, an old sewing machine, and a collection of antique sewing baskets. The tree in this room has a wonderful group of old glass ornaments (the kind my childhood Christmas tree was decorated with—who would have thought they'd be antiques so soon!). I've just started to collect these ornaments in the past few years, and most of them came from flea markets and garage sales for just a dollar or two!

I'm still working on the last guestroom. It lends itself to the garden motif so the tree I plan to put there this Christmas will be filled with dried flowers, tiny watering cans, and miniature birdhouses. I'll probably put Spanish moss on the branches for a real garden look!

I've saved our favorite tree 'til last! This is the tree in the family room, where we spend Christmas morning. It is the only live tree we have, and it always touches the ceiling! This is the tree that is filled with all of our military mementos, the treasures the children have made over the years, the jeweled silk balls that I made the year after we were married that John spent in Vietnam, family heirlooms, and all the memories of years past. This is the tree that really makes us feel at home.



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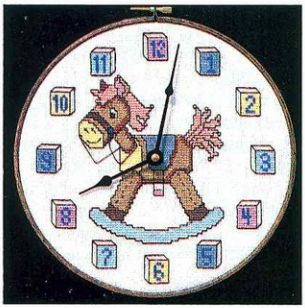
THE WEATHER OUTSIDE

(Photo is on page 22. Color code is on page 82.)



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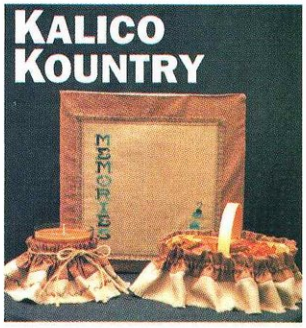

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. . . THE WEATHER OUTSIDE . . .

Designed by Sue Hillis
of Sue Hillis Designs

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	white	1001	01	white
◪	754	3146	6	peach flesh, lt.
◑	798	7022	131	delft, dk.
X	797	7023	132	royal blue
∧	676	2874	887	old gold, lt.
◚	3777	3013	13	terra-cotta, vy. dk.
bs	319	6246	246	pistachio, vy.dk.
bs	320	6017	215	pistachio, med.
bs	823	7982	150	navy, dk.

Fabric: 25-count delft blue Lugana® from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 62H x 51W
Design size: 4½" x 3⅔"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using two strands of floss unless otherwise indicated. Make French knots for eyes, using two strands 823/7982/150 and wrapping floss around needle once. When two colors are bracketed together, use one strand of each unless otherwise indicated. **Optional:** Sew small button to "close" jacket.

Backstitch (bs) instructions:

319	6246	246	
320	6017	215	greenery extending from sleeves
798	7022	131	lettering, tassel on hat
798	7022	131	
3777	3013	13	fringe on scarf (two strands of each)
823	7982	150	remainder of backstitching

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Ruffle is one-inch wide and was made with backing fabric.

The Sweetheart Tree™

Sandie Vanosdall

Our favorite Christmas memory is that we all pour a cup of eggnog and the entire family (usually with grandparents, too) sits down in front of the fireplace in the family room where my husband has built a roaring fire while I read the story *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* to the kids. We've been doing this as a family for the kids for the past 18 years. The kids used to be small enough to sit on my lap as I read to them; but at ages 16 and (almost) 19, they're a little too big–or my lap isn't quite sturdy enough anymore. The book that used to be brand new now has many curled pages, fingerprints, eggnog dribbles, and a broken spine that barely holds the pages together. Nevertheless, the entire family has the story memorized by this point; and we still all enjoy the tradition of the reading and being together on that special night. Someday when each of the kids has their own family, I hope that they will continue the tradition with their own children. But I think I will get each of them their own new books!

I'd also like to share the recipe that our family enjoys on Christmas morning for breakfast/brunch. It's very easy to prepare and then refrigerate the day before. It smells yummy cooking while we are opening presents on Christmas morning. (I believe the recipe was given to me by one of my former student teachers, Diana Lesniak-Woznak, way back in the 1970s.)

Christmas Sausage and Cheese Strada

8 pieces of bread, crusts removed and sliced into one-inch cubes
2 cups grated sharp cheddar cheese
1 pound sage-flavored sausage, browned and crumbled
4 eggs
2¾ cups milk
1 can cream of mushroom soup

Spray 9" x 13" glass casserole with cooking spray. Place bread cubes in bottom of casserole dish. Sprinkle on cheese. Place sausage on top. Beat eggs with 2¼ cups milk and pour over top. Cover with aluminum foil. Refrigerate overnight.

The next morning, mix the soup with the remaining ½ cup milk and spread on top. Bake uncovered at 300° for about 90 minutes or until the top has puffed up and is a rich deep golden brown.

A-MAZE-ING HOLIDAY HEART
Designed by Sandie Vanosdall of The Sweetheart Tree™

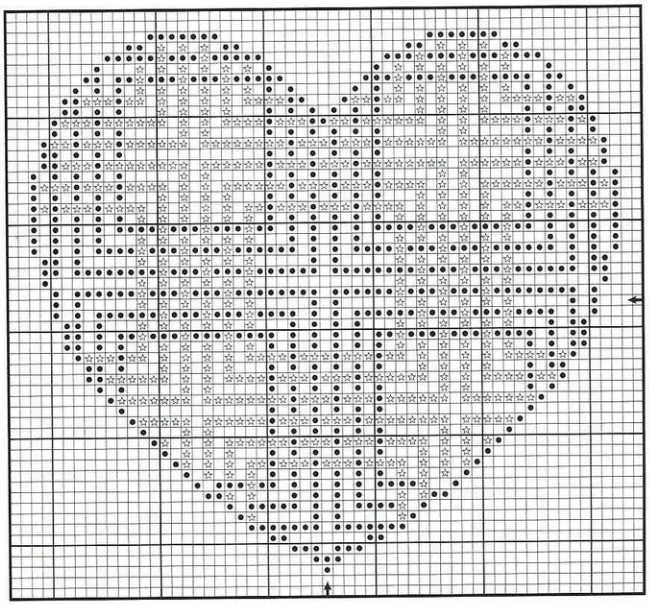
	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
•	500	6880	879	blue-green, vy. dk.
☆	816	3410	20	garnet

Fabric: 28-count natural brown undyed linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 51H x 55W
Design size: 3⅔" x 4"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss.

Finishing instructions:
Two layers of batting were placed under the stitched piece and then laid against a heart-shaped cardboard piece that is approximately ½" larger on all sides than stitched piece. Repeat for backing with another piece of 28-count undyed linen. Glue wrong sides of heart shapes together. Twisted cording trim was made using one skein each 500/6880/879 and 816/3410/20. Turn page 95 for twisted-cording instructions. Tassel was made using one–two skeins 500/6880/879. Tassel-making how-tos appear on page 95.

Stitched by Laura Nass
Finished by Jan Brownell



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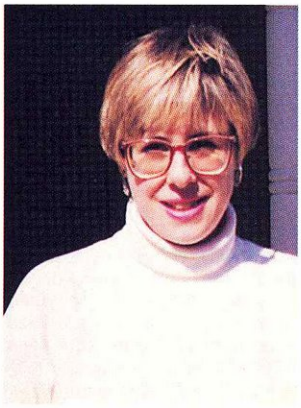
A-MAZE-ING HOLIDAY HEART
(Photo is on page 12.)

Theron Traditions

Catherine Theron



Apricot Crescent Cookies

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup butter
1 egg yolk
½ cup apricot preserves
½ cup flaked coconut
½ cup sour cream
¼ cup chopped pecans
Sugar

Use pastry cutter to blend butter into flour until the mixture has a consistency of coarse crumbs. Beat egg yolk and sour cream together and add to crumb mixture. Mix well. Chill.

Remove dough from refrigerator and divide into four portions. Sprinkle sugar over surface and roll, one section at a time, into a 10" circle. Flip dough over so sugared side is on top. Mix preserves, coconut, and pecans and spread over dough. Cut each circle into 12 wedges and roll each wedge into a crescent shape, starting at wide end. Place on ungreased cookie sheet with point down, approximately 1" apart. Sprinkle tops with sugar. Bake at 350° for 15–17 minutes, or until crescents are lightly brown. Remove from baking sheet and cool on wire racks.
Yield: 4 dozen

1997 HONEYSUCKLE ORNAMENT
Designed by Catherine Theron
of Theron Traditions

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads

○ 0810	Purple Iris
• 0420	Gold Leaf
/ 0130	Avocado

Fabric: 32-count Desert Sand linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 32H x 39W
Design size: 2" x 2½"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Work petit point to fill flower petals, using two strands 0810 Purple Iris. Work petit point for year, using two strands 0130 Avocado.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using DMC 333 and DMC 3746. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

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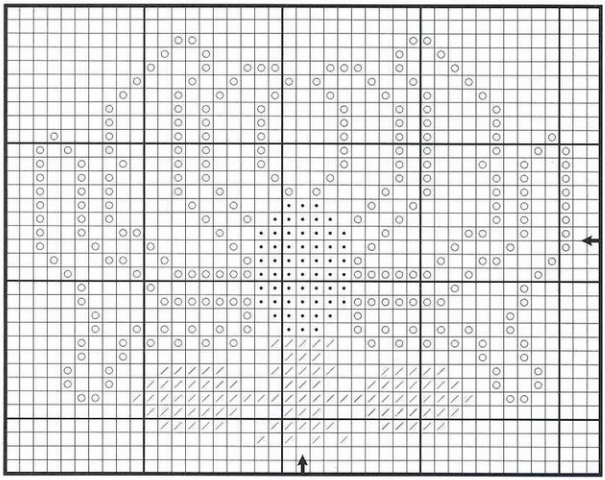


1997 HONEYSUCKLE ORNAMENT
(Photo is on page 14.)

SILENT NIGHT
Designed by Nancy Sturgeon
of Threads Through Time

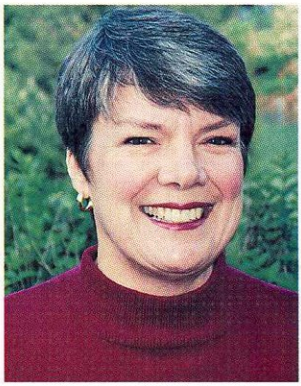
	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
X	ecru	1002	387	ecru
⁂	221	3242	897	pink, vy. dk.
⸙	407	2337	883	flesh, dk.
▲	501	6878	878	blue-green, dk.
T	738	5375	372	tan, vy. lt.
◑	844	8501	382	beaver gray, ul. dk.
♥	3828	2412	373	hazelnut brown

Fabric: 36-count summer khaki Edinborough® linen from Zweigart®
Stitch count: 70H x 70W
Design size: 4" x 4"
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Personalize by backstitching initials in lower-left corner, using one strand 221/3242/897 and a favorite alphabet.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using 221/3242/897. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions.

Threads Through Time

Nancy Sturgeon

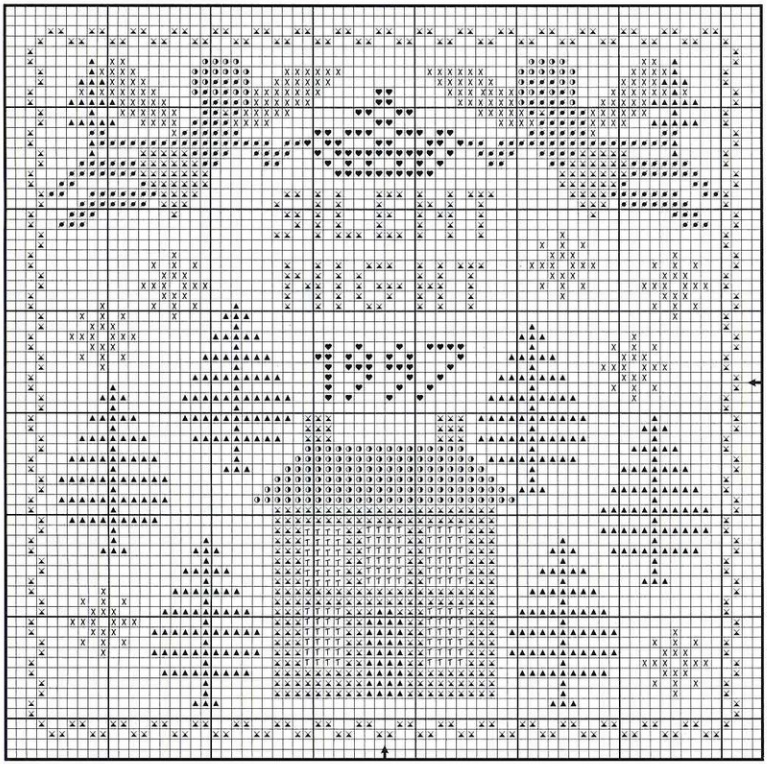


Since I was a child, I have always been interested in making things. I started out with sewing cards and loopy pot holders and then proceeded to make clothes that were literally sewn to my dolls. At Christmas, I always tried to make presents for my family. In the eighth grade, I knitted my first sweater and, in the years to follow, knitted a sweater for each of my parents and also my brother. He actually still has his! While in high school, I made my own Christmas cards. One year, I block-printed them, cutting out my own linoleum block. Another year, I cut out colored paper and foil in the shape of a topiary tree and glued it along with gold cord and sequins to my cards. I thought they were fabulous!

One year, when my two daughters were small, I made them special outfits to wear for Christmas. I also sewed each a large floppy doll the size of a two-year old, a project that seemed to take about twenty bags of stuffing.

In the days when I had lots of spare time, I used to bake bread. Cinnamon raisin bread was my specialty, and I gave it to family and friends at holiday time. Baking it in quantity made such a mess in my kitchen that I only made it once a year, but it was delicious.

I am now in a small stitching group. Each year we have a wonderful Christmas party. After a terrific dinner, we open lots of gifts. Last year, I stitched a simple hardanger ornament on 20-count linen for each of my friends and also made them a bag of homemade caramel corn. For my secret pal, I made a hardanger chatelaine, a nice change from stitching samplers. Now I am trying to plan for this year's gifts . . . but isn't that half the fun!



SILENT NIGHT

(Photo is on page 28.)

©1997 Threads Through Time

Karen's Caramel Corn

6–8 quarts popped corn
2 sticks margarine
2 cups brown sugar, packed
½ cup light corn syrup
¼ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon baking soda
1 tablespoon vanilla

Place popcorn in roasting pan in 200° oven. Melt butter in 3-quart sauce pan. Add sugar, syrup, and salt. Bring to a boil. Cook at low boil for five minutes, not stirring. Add vanilla and soda. Beat well. Pour over popcorn, mixing well. Bake one hour at 250°, stirring every 15 minutes.

Told in a Garden

Marilyn Leavitt-Imblum

Sugar Cookies

⅔ cup butter, softened
¾ cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 egg
4 teaspoons milk
2 cups flour
1½ teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt

Cream butter, sugar, and vanilla. Add egg and milk; mix well. Add flour, baking powder, and salt; mix well and chill. Roll to ⅛" thickness. Cut into shapes. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 375° for 6–8 minutes. Let cool 2 minutes on cookie sheet before removing to wire rack. Frost.

Frosting:
½ cup heavy cream
5 teaspoons butter, softened
½ teaspoon vanilla
4–6 cups powdered sugar

Mix well and spread on cookies.

Apple and Cheddar Cheese Crisp

6 cups sliced apples
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 tablespoon lemon juice
½ cup corn syrup
½ cup sugar
⅔ cup flour
¼ teaspoon salt
⅓ cup butter
1 cup grated cheddar cheese

Arrange apples in greased 10" x 6" x 2" baking dish. Sprinkle with cinnamon and pour lemon juice and corn syrup over apples.

Combine sugar, flour, and salt. Cut in butter until it's "like cornmeal." Gently mix in cheese. Sprinkle mixture over apples. Bake at 350° for 1 hour or until apples are tender.

1994 CHRISTMAS MADONNA

Designed by Marilyn Leavitt-Imblum of Told in a Garden

DMC		
S	356	terra-cotta, med.
◑	433	brown, med.
C	434	brown, lt.
+	754	peach flesh, lt.
E	758	terra-cotta, lt.
♥	823	navy, dk.
▲	898	coffee brown, vy. dk.
◐	930	antique blue, dk.
I	931	antique blue, med.
X	932	antique blue, lt.
⧗	939	navy, vy. dk.
–	948	peach flesh, vy. lt.
↘	3371	black-brown
★	3750	antique blue, vy. dk.
=	3752	antique blue, vy. lt.
•	white	white
○	284Z	gold metallic
	white	white
⊗	284Z	gold metallic
	434	brown, lt.
●	284Z	gold metallic
	801	coffee, dk.
◢	284Z	gold metallic
	3371	black-brown

Fabric: 32-count cream linen from Wichelt Imports, Inc.
Stitch count: 100H x 53W
Design size: 6¼" x 3⅓"

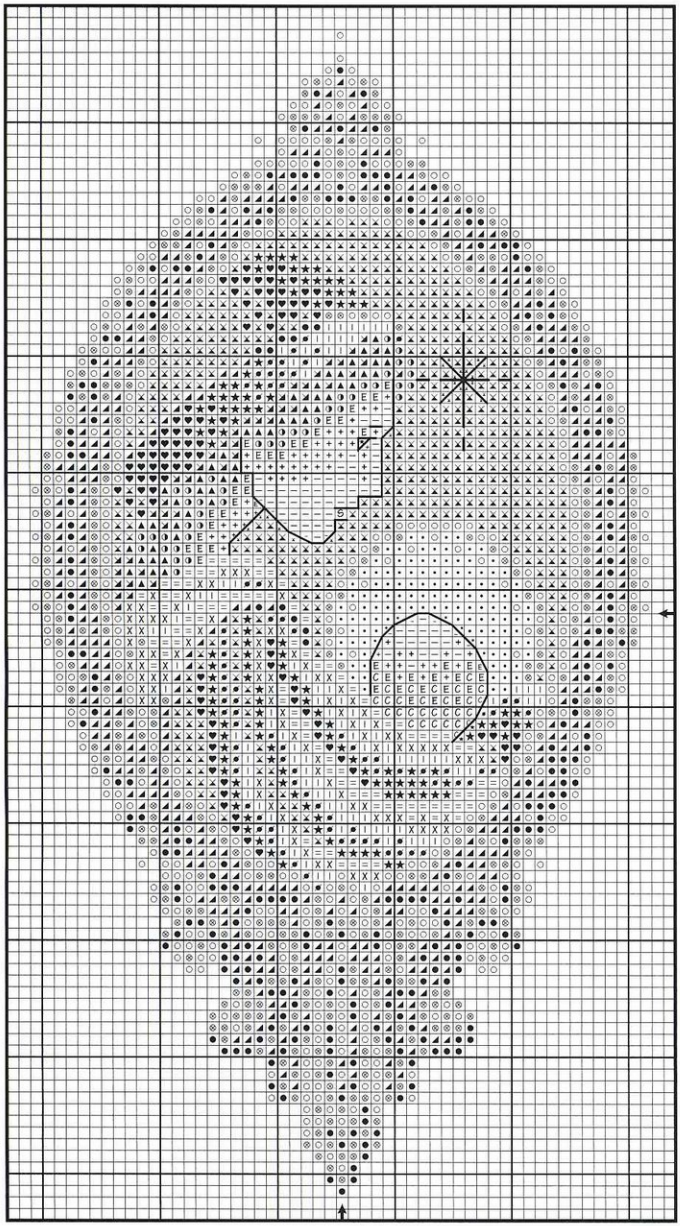
Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch using one strand of floss unless otherwise indicated. When two colors are bracketed together, work half cross stitch, using one strand 284Z and two strands of floss.

Backstitch instructions:

3371	5478	382	eye, eyebrow
284Z			star (two strands)
356	2975	9575	remainder of backstitching

Finishing instructions:
Refer to page 94 for pillow-style ornament finishing instructions. Trim was purchased.

Stitched by Judy Thaxton



©1994 Marilyn Leavitt-Imblum. Told in a Garden

1994 CHRISTMAS MADONNA

(Photo is on page 14.)

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Twisted Threads

Ruth A. Sparrow

ELFIE
Designed by Ruth A. Sparrow
of Twisted Threads

The Gentle Art Sampler Threads	
X 0130	Avocado
S 0330	Cherry Wine
○ 0420	Gold Leaf
▲ 0510	Cinnamon
. 0620	Apricot Blush
• 0730	Cameo Pink
bs 1040	Black Crow

Fabric: 30-count Eggplant linen from R & R Reproductions
Stitch count: 50H x 45W
Design size: 3" x 3⅓"

Instructions: Cross stitch over two threads, using two strands of floss. Backstitch (bs) using one strand 1040 Black Crow. Work French knot for eyes where • appears at intersecting grid lines, using two strands 1040 Black Crow and wrapping floss around needle once.

Finishing instructions:
Refer to pillow-style ornament finishing instructions on page 94. Twisted-cording trim was made using 084 African Sunset Watercolours by The Caron Collection. Turn to page 95 for twisted-cording instructions. Iridescent beaded trim and 1"-wide hand-dyed wire-edged ribbon were purchased.

Finished by Sew It Seams

Christmas time always brings back memories of childhood with our home filled with the wonderful aromas of Mom's baking and cooking. At the age of 80, she still spends weeks baking her favorites like divinity, cherry winks, and fudge.

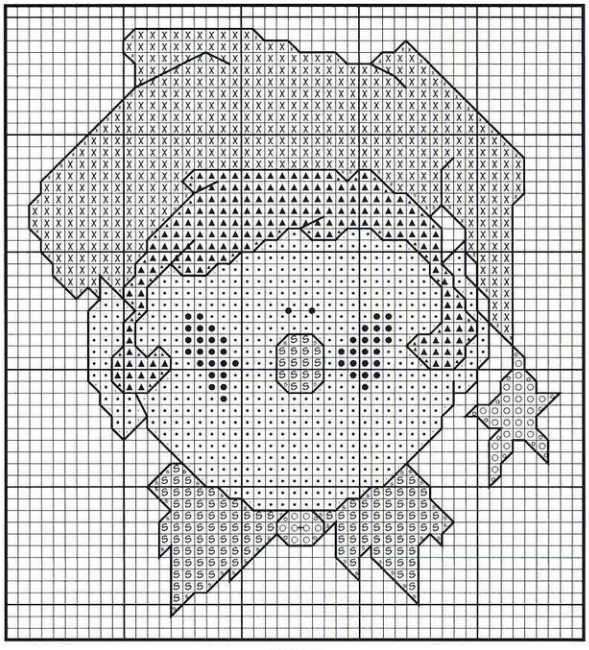
Cherry Winks
5 cups cornflakes
1 teaspoon baking powder
¾ cup butter, softened
15 marachino cherries, quartered
⅓ cup marachino cherries, minced
2¼ cups sifted flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
2 eggs
1 cup sugar
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup chopped nuts

Crush cornflakes into coarse crumbs; set aside. Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt; set aside. Measure butter and sugar into large mixing bowl; beat until very light and fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla; beat well. Add sifted dry ingredients; mix until combined. Stir in nuts and finely cut cherries. Shape level measuring-tablespoons of dough into balls; roll in crushed cornflakes. Top each cookie with a cherry quarter. Bake on a greased baking sheet at 375° about 12 minutes or until lightly brown. Remove immediately from baking sheets; cool on wire racks.
Yield: about 5 dozen

Noodles with German Accent
1 pound fresh mushrooms
8 ounces medium width egg noodles
¼ cup chopped parsley
4 tablespoons butter
1½ teaspoons salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
½ cup minced onion
1 cup sour cream
1 cup soft bread crumbs

Preheat oven to 400°. Rinse, pat dry, and slice mushrooms. In a large skillet, melt 3 tablespoons butter. Add mushrooms and onion; sauté 5 minutes or until mushrooms are golden. Set aside. Cook noodles; drain. Stir in mushroom mixture, sour cream, parsley, salt, and pepper. Spoon mixture into a 2-quart casserole dish.

In a small saucepan, melt remaining 1 tablespoon butter. Add bread crumbs and toss lightly. Spoon around edge of casserole. Bake in preheated oven for 5 minutes or until hot and crumbs are golden.

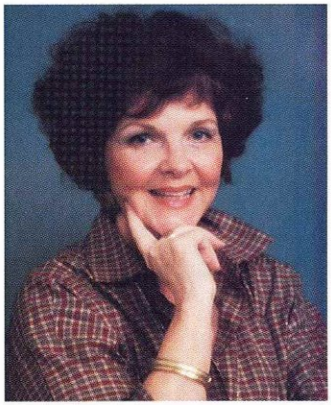


Original Artwork ©1997 Mary Burton
Needlearts Adaptation ©1997 Ruth A. Sparrow

ELFIE
(Photo is on page 22.)

"Vera K" Designs

Vera M. Klein



A Christmas Memory

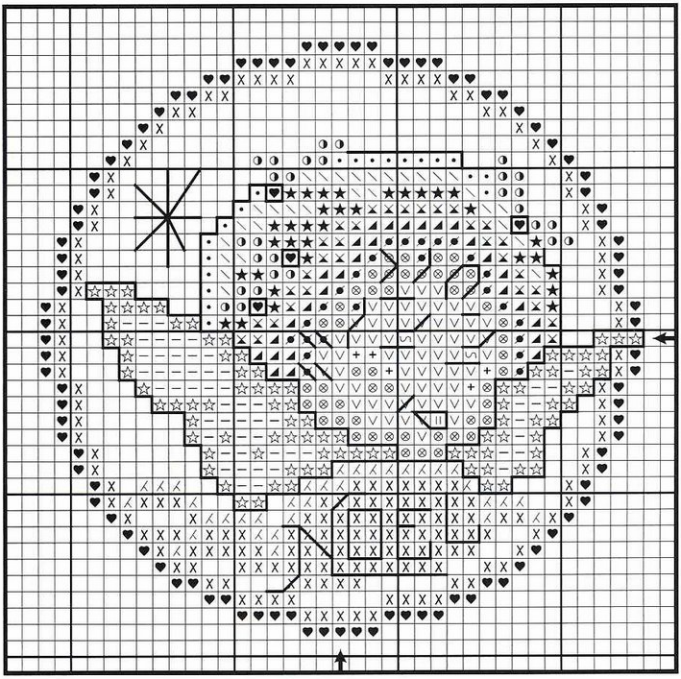
With my daughter's husband in Vietnam, December was spent helping Julie move to Los Angeles to be near our family. Christmas was nigh, and all of us were exhausted. We took no joy at the prospect of joining throngs of last-minute shoppers, topped off with wrapping frenzies, holiday food preparations, and household decorating. We yearned for simplicity.

Suddenly husband Roger devised a spur-of-the-moment scheme. Before long, we were in the car with Julie's fourteen-year-old brother Mac and a few hastily packed bags, headed for the village of Big Bear in the San Bernardino Mountains. On the freeway, our carefree mood was interrupted by travelers in the adjacent lane waving and point, first at the top of our car and then at the road behind. Alas, Roger's Samsonite had broken loose from its moorings, soared across four lanes of traffic, and skidded thirty-five feet along the edge of the highway. Friction caused the metal parts to spark; and when the bag was opened, we were astonished to find poor Roger's undies scorched brown, his vinyl gloves melted together, and his misshapen snow boots smoking. This struck us as unbearably hilarious, and we continued gleefully into snow country. Icy patches forced the installation of tire chains; but hey, so what? The gas station sold fresh hot cinnamon buns, and we were on a search for Christmas!

The cozy three-room rented cabin near the base of the mountain had a wreath on its door. Whistling "Deck the Halls," armed with axe and flashlight, "the men" trekked into the woods for our Christmas tree. At a nearby grocery store, Julie and I purchased "provisions." Soon the comforting aroma of turkey and cookies permeated the air.

Christmas shopping was at the old general store, where, determined to maintain secrecy, we giggled and sneaked backward glances as each shoved purchases quickly into brown paper bags, slyly escaping detection by the others. Even shopping was a game!

Later the bags were tied with ribbons and labeled with marking pens.



©1997 "Vera K" Designs

A CHRISTMAS ANGEL

(Photo is on page 28. Color code is on page 90.)

We trimmed the tree with red paper-napkin bows and tinsel, sang carols, and played games. Christmas morning, our simple gifts were ceremoniously exchanged. Cleanup was a cinch, and soon we were off for an exhilarating afternoon of inner-tubing down the icy slopes, occasionally breaking for hot chocolate at the Swiss café. That night we feasted on leftovers, and the lack of television (at first so deplored) provided us with a rare and precious opportunity to really enjoy one another.

That tiny cabin had surely been blessed by a Christmas angel.

A CHRISTMAS ANGEL

Designed by Vera M. Klein
of "Vera K" Designs

	DMC	Coats	Anchor®	
X	B5200	—	2	snow white
•	738	5375	372	tan, vy. lt.
●	433	5471	944	brown, med.
⊗	950	2336	376	flesh, lt.
v	948	2331	778	peach flesh, vy. lt.
◢	434	5000	370	brown, lt.
◑	3346	6258	268	hunter
☆	3761	7159	9159	sky blue, lt.
–	747	7053	928	sky blue, vy. lt.
♥	816	3410	20	garnet
★	436	5943	362	tan
✓	517	7162	170	Wedgwood, med.
+	761	3068	893	salmon, lt.
‖	760	3069	894	salmon
⧗	435	5371	363	brown, vy. lt.
∩	996	7001	433	electric blue, med.
\	437	5942	361	tan, lt.

Fabric: 14-count gold perforated paper from Yarn Tree Designs
Stitch count: 37H x 37W
Design size: 2⅔" x 2⅔"

Instructions: Cross stitch using three strands of floss. Backstitch using two strands of floss unless otherwise indicated.

Backstitch instructions:

B5200	—	2	star
434	5000	370	hair outline
433	5471	944	hair wisps and holly berries (one strand), eyelashes, eyebrows
996	7001	433	eyes, line at bottom of eyes
517	7162	170	wings
816	3410	20	"NOEL"
760	3069	894	lips and cheek line (two strands)

Finishing instructions:
Using a small wooden hoop, center over design on wrong side and trace around outer edge with pencil. Cut out circle shape. Glue wrong side of design to hoop. Glue purchased trim to conceal cut edge of perforated paper. Cover back of hoop with another paper circle. For hanger, use eight-inch length of 816/3410/20 and attach to brass screw of hoop.

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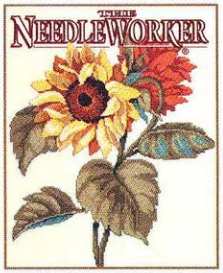

Sunflower Afghan by Barbara Baatz is just one of the projects for cross stitch in Autumn '97. Look for Four Seasons Bellpull by Nancy Rosse, Heritage Roses from Diane Brakefield, plus much more.

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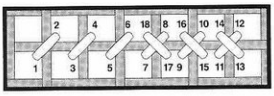
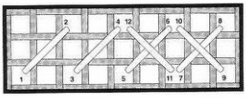
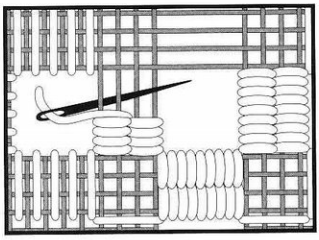


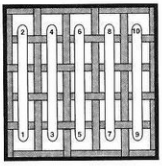
CROSS STITCH OVER ONE



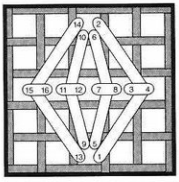
CROSS STITCH OVER TWO



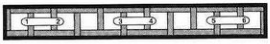
WOVEN BARS



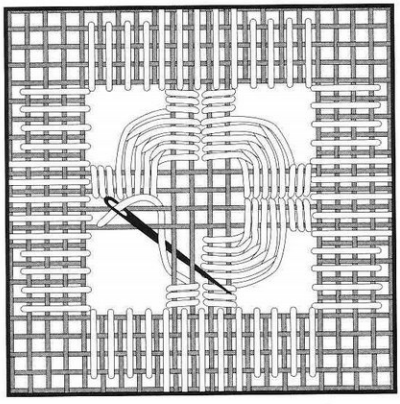
SATIN STITCH



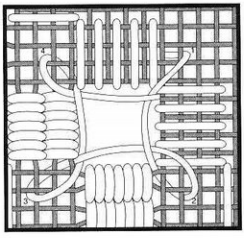
QUEEN STITCH



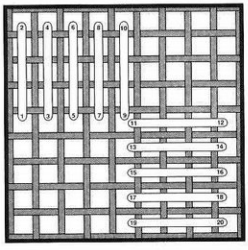
RUNNING STITCH



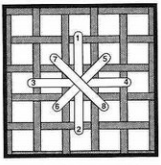
WRAPPED BARS (CONNECTED)



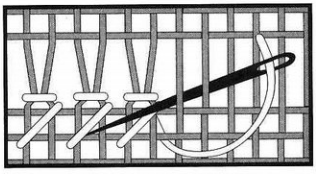
CORNER DOVE'S EYE



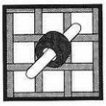
KLOSTER BLOCKS



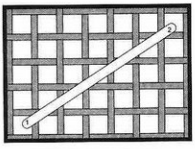
STAR STITCH



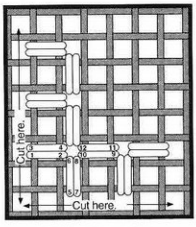
HEMSTITCH ILL. 1



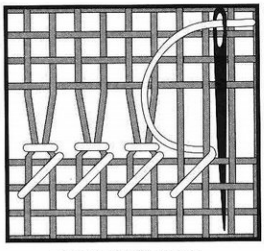
ATTACHING A BEAD WITH HALF CROSS STITCH



LONG STITCH

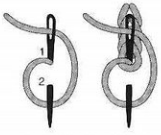


NUN'S STITCH TURNING A CORNER



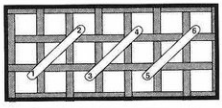
HEMSTITCH ILL. 2

ATTACHING A BEAD WITH CROSS STITCH

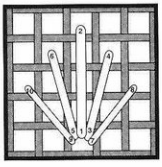


CHAIN STITCH

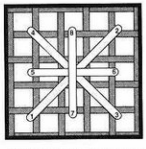
LAZY-DAZY STITCH



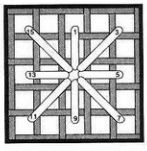
HALF CROSS STITCH OVER TWO



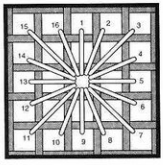
DIAMOND RAY STITCH



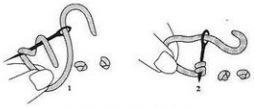
SMYRNA CROSS OVER FOUR



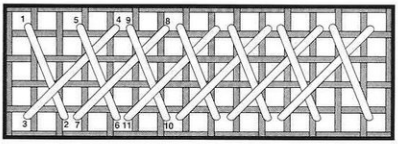
ALGERIAN EYE STITCH



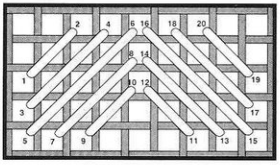
EYELET STITCH OVER FOUR



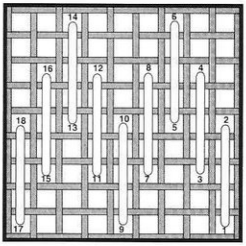
FRENCH KNOT



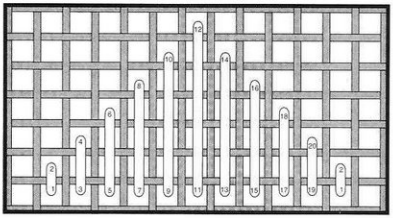
PLAIT STITCH



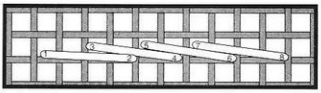
REVERSED SCOTCH STITCH



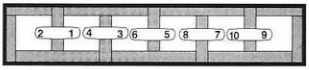
BARGELLO STITCH
(FLORENTINE)



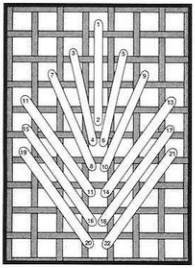
SAWTOOTH SATIN STITCH



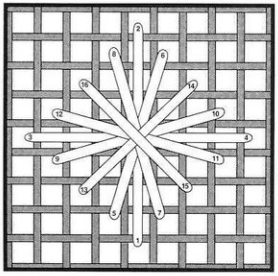
STEM STITCH



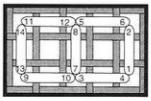
BACKSTITCH



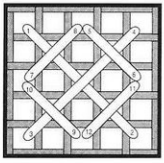
LEAF STITCH



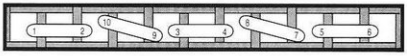
QUADRUPLE CROSS STITCH



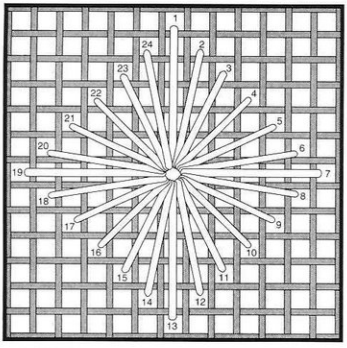
FOUR-SIDED
STITCH



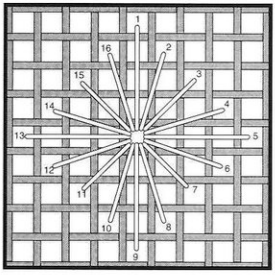
RICE STITCH
OVER FOUR



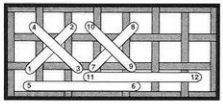
DOUBLE-RUNNING STITCH



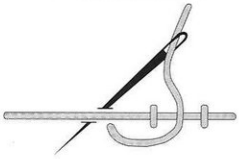
DIAMOND-EYELET STITCH OVER 12



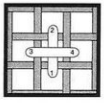
DIAMOND-EYELET STITCH
OVER EIGHT



EDGED CROSS STITCH

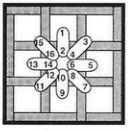


COUCHING STITCH

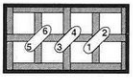


UPRIGHT
CROSS STITCH

SMYRNA
CROSS
OVER TWO



EYELET STITCH
OVER TWO



CONTINENTAL
STITCH
(PETITE POINT
OR TENT
STITCH)
OVER ONE

Ornament Finishing Instructions

PILLOW-STYLE ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Cording (**NOTE:** See Step 2 to determine length needed.)
Backing fabric to complement or match cross-stitch fabric
Thread to match fabrics and cording
Polyester stuffing
Hand-sewing needle
Ruler
Tape measure
Marking pencil for fabric
Straight pins
Scissors
Steam iron
Transparent fabric glue (optional)
Sewing machine (optional)

NOTE: Please read all instructions carefully before beginning. Use a ½" seam allowance.

1. Press stitched piece from back, straightening fabric as much as possible. Measure desired distance (⅛"–1" is typical) from stitching on all sides and use marking pencil to draw a line this distance from edge of design all around, staying on grain-line of fabric when possible. **DO NOT** cut fabric. Place ornament over a piece of backing fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together along edge of stitching.

2. Calculate approximate circumference of your finished ornament by measuring the line you have just drawn. Add 8" for hanger to this measurement to determine the length of cording for each ornament.

3. Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving an opening at bottom of ornament to turn. Trim all layers to seam allowances of ¼". Trim corners to seam allowances of ⅛".

4. Turn ornament to right side, fill with polyester stuffing, and sew opening closed.

5. Secure cut ends of cording with stitches or transparent fabric glue. Blindstitch cording to ornament, using sewing thread to match cording and concealing cut ends.

DIAGONAL PILLOW-ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Polyester stuffing
8" hanger (twisted cording, jute, ribbon, etc., to complement stitching)
Ruler Scissors Steam iron

1. Complete stitching according to chart and color code. Backstitch ½"–¾" from all sides of stitching to form a square, using two–three strands of floss to complement stitching or to match cross-stitch fabric. Trim fabric to within ¼" of backstitching.

2. Turn under fabric on all sides along backstitching and press, referring to Illustration 1 and mitering corners if desired.

3. With right-side down and referring to Illustration 2, bring corners together in center back. Whipstitch openings closed, catching backstitch and using two–three strands of floss to complement stitching or to match cross-stitch fabric. Fill with polyester stuffing before closing top-center opening. Insert ends of hanger into seam and whipstitch closed.

STOCKING-ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:
Cording (**NOTE:** See Step 2 to determine length needed.)
Backing fabric to complement or match cross-stitch fabric
Thread to match fabrics and cording
Hand-sewing needle
Ruler
Tape measure
Marking pencil for fabric
Straight pins Scissors
Steam iron
Transparent fabric glue (optional)
Sewing machine (optional)

ILLUSTRATION 1

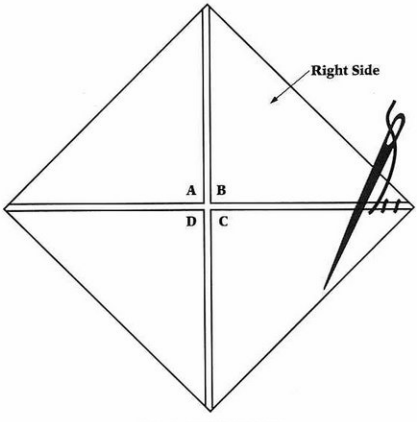


ILLUSTRATION 2

NOTE: Please read all instructions carefully before beginning. Use a ½" seam allowance.

1. Press stitched piece from back, straightening fabric as much as possible. Measure desired distance (⅛"–¼" is typical) from stitching on all sides and use marking pencil to draw a line this distance from edge of design all around to form the shape of a stocking, staying on grain-line of fabric when possible. **DO NOT** cut fabric. Place ornament over a piece of backing fabric (right sides together) and pin layers together along edge of stitching.

2. Calculate approximate circumference of your finished ornament by measuring the line you have just drawn. Add 8" for hanger to this measurement to determine the length of cording for each ornament.

3. Sew around ornament along drawn line, leaving an opening at top of ornament to turn. Trim all layers to seam allowances of ¼", leaving ½"–¾" at top. Clip curves as needed.

4. Turn ornament to right side. Turn fabric at top of stocking to inside, even with stitching.

5. Secure cut ends of cording with stitches or transparent fabric glue. Blindstitch cording to ornament, using sewing thread to match cording and concealing cut ends.

FRINGED PILLOW-ORNAMENT FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

Linen or cross-stitch fabric same size and color as that used for ornament
Quilt batting
Hanger (twisted cording, jute twine, etc.)
Ruler Straight pins Scissors

1. Trim stitched ornament, allowing for ½" of fabric beyond running-stitch border or chain-stitch border.

2. Cut another piece of linen the same size for the back. Put the two pieces together, wrong sides facing. Insert a small piece of quilt batting. Pin securely on all four sides so they will not slip, aligning the grain of both pieces of fabric.

3. Referring to ornament chart, work a running-stitch border or chain-stitch border around the perimeter of the ornament through both pieces of linen.

4. Fringe on all sides to within about two threads of the running stitch.

5. Attach hanger.

TWISTED-CORDING INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

Embroidery floss, coton perlé, or other fiber to complement stitchery (**NOTE:** To determine amount needed, see Step 1. Refer to ornament color code for specific color and fiber used.)
Heavy keychain with keys (to provide weight)
Twist tie Cup-hook screw
Cordless or electric drill **or** mini cording drill

NOTE: Cording can be made by one person; however, the procedure can be awkward at times, especially when dealing with long lengths of floss–an extra set of hands is always helpful.

1. To determine the amount of floss needed, multiply by three the desired length of the cording, making sure to include any length needed for hangers when finishing ornaments. Place all lengths of floss together and tie a knot in each end.

2. Place cup-hook screw in drill instead of a bit. Make certain cup-hook screw is securely in place.

3. Slip one knotted end of floss onto cup-hook screw. Slip other knotted end over a small knob. Pull drill so that floss is taut. Turn on drill. Floss will begin to twist. Continue twisting until floss is very tightly twisted and is about to twist up on itself. Turn off drill. **DO NOT REMOVE** twisted floss from cup-hook screw or knob.

4. Using a twist tie, attach keychain to center of twisted floss. Remove floss ends from cup-hook screw and knob, being extremely careful not to let go of ends and keeping twisted floss taut. With keychain in the center of twisted floss, bring knotted ends together and allow weight of keychain to twist the floss evenly. When the twisting is complete, secure the knotted ends with another knot and remove twist tie and keychain.

5. Whipstitch cording to ornament as desired. (**NOTE:** When cutting cording, secure cut ends with a piece of clear tape or with a dab of fabric glue to prevent untwisting.)

Tips for Making Two-Color Cording:

•Determine length of floss according to Step 1 above.

•Bring together two ends of one color, referring to Illustration A. Slip one end of other color through circle formed by first color and tie a knot so that another circle is formed. (See Illustration B.)

•Continue with Step 2.

ILLUSTRATION A

ILLUSTRATION B

TASSEL-MAKING HOW-TOS

Materials:

One skein of floss (**NOTE:** Refer to ornament color code for specific color and fiber used.)
Square piece sturdy cardboard, approximately 1" larger than desired finished size of tassel
Hand-sewing needle Scissors

1. Cut two 6" lengths of floss from full skein, to be used for tying top of tassel.

2. Wrap remaining floss around cardboard, referring to Illustration 1 and being careful not to bend cardboard by wrapping floss too tightly.

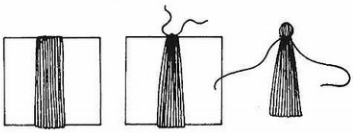
3. Slip one 6" length of floss under wrapped floss at top edge of cardboard and tie securely, referring to Illustration 2. Do not trim floss tails.

4. Carefully remove cardboard.

5. Referring to Illustration 3, wind second 6" length of floss around neck of tassel, ¼"–½" from top of tassel. Thread needle with floss tail and wrap around tie several times, referring to Illustration 4. Bury floss end in tassel. Repeat for remaining floss tail.

6. Cut along bottom of tassel through all fibers. Trim bottom of tassel to desired length and so that floss is even.

7. Attach tassel to ornament, using floss tail at top of tassel to secure.



ILL. 1 **ILL. 2** **ILL. 3**

ILL. 4

COMPLETED TASSEL